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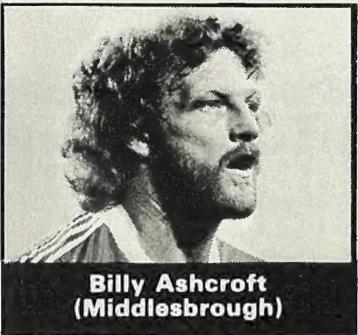
STARS REVEAL
THEIR SHOCKS
AND SURPRISES
OF THE SEASON

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Five stars talk about the season's SHOCKS and SURPRISES



Billy Ashcroft
(Middlesbrough)

'ASA'S DOUBLE TRANSFER'

THE biggest shock to me so far this season was Liverpool's patchy start in the League — then this was followed by their European Cup defeat by Dinamo Tbilisi in Russia, which prompted some Pressmen to predict Bob Paisley's team was cracking up.

But I know the lads in the Liverpool side well, and any forecast that they are over the hill will only have the effect of making them play all the harder to prove their critics wrong.

Admittedly, their League and Cup reverses were a double shock to me. Yet I can recall Liverpool striking a bad patch before, in other seasons, before recovering to continue their collection of trophies. It's only human for any team to go through a rough spell, and Liverpool have since indicated their European Cup exit hasn't floored them by taking over their customary position at the top by November. And my feeling is the Anfield club will still take a lot of stopping in their bid for domestic honours.

I was surprised that Bob Latchford was left out of the Everton side at the start, because I always considered him to be a centre-forward who could get goals anywhere. It seemed like a trouble situation between manager and player and I am pleased that Bob is now back in the team.

I was shocked by Asa Hartford's brief stay with Nottingham Forest, but the facts all indicate that Brian Clough wanted to use Asa in a

particular role and it just didn't work out. But I admire the Forest manager for having the courage to admit that he had made a mistake before selling him to Everton.

And still on the subject of Brian Clough, I was surprised by stories in the Press that he had differences with Forest and threatened to leave if he couldn't do things his way.

Two Midland teams surprised me by their performances early on — I refer to Wolves and West Brom. Wolves were up among the leaders after tightening up their previously suspect defence while West Brom, after their fine form of last season, struggled, but the side is talented and have gradually been improving their position.

From the Midlands I move to another soccer area that can't be left out of the news — Merseyside. And in addition to Liverpool, it is Everton who have raised a few eyebrows by slumping to the bottom half of the table. They appear to be unable to rely on a settled side, making changes every Saturday, and I feel some sympathy for manager Gordon Lee.

And to a certain extent, a similar situation exists at Maine Road. Malcolm Allison is in charge of a team that is going through a rebuilding process and my surprise here will come if Manchester City aren't a good side soon.



Asa Hartford

Which brings me to the subject of my own club, Wrexham. We were second in the first week of October, and although we slipped down the table we are still within reach of the leading clubs. There is a long way to go and we'll be out to do our best in a promotion race which could be the most open in years.

It was news from Sunderland that saddened me in September — the retirement from football of Mike Docherty, due to a knee injury. Mike was one of the most wholehearted competitors I've met, and he was a driving force when his team met Wrexham at the Racecourse Ground in Sunderland's vital promotion game at the end of last season. Unknown to most people, Mike had played under the threat of instant retirement for several years.

Another player I enjoyed competing against was Malcolm MacDonald — his strength on the ball and all-round power always made him a centre-forward to be reckoned with. So his early retirement from the game affected me in the same way as Mike Docherty's, and I wish them both well.

But perhaps the saddest news in soccer concerned the death of Les Cocker, so long connected with Don Revie at Leeds and later with England. Les was always very fit, but there is a lot of stress in football and he was exposed to it in the great days at Elland Road. He was a man who put everything he had into whatever he did, and made an impact upon the game and folk he met.

The omission of Bob Latchford from the England squad for the match against Northern Ireland was a surprise to me. Even though Bob lacked match practice, the boost to his morale to have been included in the party would have



Dai Davies
(Wrexham)

'LIVERPOOL WINNING THE CHARITY SHIELD'



THE first surprise I had this season was when Liverpool won the Charity Shield — I thought they would get off to a slow start, but at Wembley they proved me wrong although they stumbled at the beginning of their League programme and lost a few points.

Naturally, questions were asked about whether or not Bob Paisley had an ailing team on his hands, but I'm not one of those who have doubts about Liverpool's ability to stay at the head of affairs — and have been contesting strongly again as the season has really got under way, and their European Cup exit hasn't dented their morale.

been tremendous — I say this because I've previously been picked for Wales when left out of my club side, and I know what it meant to me. Bob was recalled to the squad for the recent Bulgaria game, but unfortunately had to pull out because of injury.

And a former Wrexham player, Billy Ashcroft, has proved a centre-forward can switch to defence and become a success. Most of soccer may have been surprised but not Billy's old Wrexham team-mates. They maintain he has all the attributes of a centre-half, including height and power in the air, which he is using with good effect with Middlesbrough.



John Wile
(West Brom)

'NON-LEAGUE STARS AMONG THE GOALS'

I'VE been surprised by the way the media have made judgments on teams with the season just approaching the halfway mark. They are inclined to make predictions and write off clubs who have had one or two bad results, and fail to take into account the fact that the major part of the season lies ahead of us. There is no in-between when sports reporters are discussing the fortunes of various teams — everything is black or white, and a team is either lauded to the skies or condemned as being hopeless.

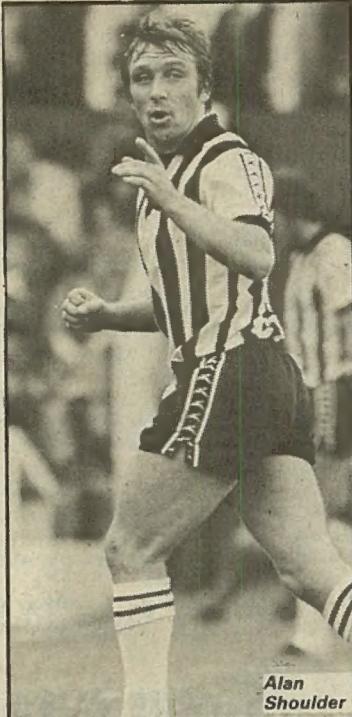
Jimmy Hill has mentioned that Liverpool might be slipping because of early set-backs, yet they have had poor spells in previous years and still managed to lift Cups and win Championships as they proved by hitting the top on November 17th.

And my opinion is that in 1979-80, Liverpool will be making their usual impact and will be just as difficult for anyone to knock off their perch.

In the case of my own team, West Bromwich, the side we are fielding now is almost completely changed from the one that was promoted three years ago — it is potentially better today than it was then, and what we are seeking now is the blending together of new players. Already we are improving on our lowly League position of the first few weeks of the season, which surprised some fans.

On the subject of shocks, the alleged £1,200 weekly wage paid by Nottingham Forest to Peter Shilton is surprising, almost sensational. It means that Peter is earning more than his manager, if, as Brian Clough said in the Press, he is receiving less than £30,000 a year, and other players could feel that their own wages were inadequate. Of course, it's difficult to weigh up exactly how much Peter Shilton is worth in cash terms to Forest — and there is no doubt about him being a superb goalkeeper.

I've been shocked sometimes by the amount of publicity that footballers can receive if involved in a punch-up, as at Brighton when Eric Steele had a dust-up with his colleague. On the rugby field, players can exchange blows and little is said about it — maybe there is some resentment felt by many



Alan Shoulder

soccer fans because they feel the living standards of players takes them out of the world of the man in the street. Years ago, the soccer public felt closer to its heroes but, nevertheless, Eric has since been sold to Watford.

Lastly, I've been surprised this season that more players of the calibre of Barry Dunn, recently signed by Sunderland from the local gasworks at the age of 27, are not snapped up by League clubs. Newcastle United did it with Alan Shoulder, in his mid-20's, and an ex-miner like Alan is likelier to put more into his training and work harder at his game than professional soccer players who are apt to take their living standards for granted. After mining, most things must come easy.



John Shaw
(Bristol City)

'WATSON'S SPEEDY RETURN'

I WAS surprised at the quick return to English football of Dave Watson, following a three-month spell in West Germany. Obviously, things didn't work out with Bremen, which would prompt Dave to keep in touch with what was going on in England. When the opportunity to go to Southampton came up, he took advantage of it and returned to this country. As a centre-back, Watson has always been outstanding, with his ability in the air and strength in tackling, and he has been a key-man with England in many games. And at Southampton, his experience will be a steady influence on the defence.

The number of clubs involved in a scramble for leading places in the First Division has surprised me. In mid-November, there were only five points separating the top team from those in the middle of the table, which indicates there will be a tremendous struggle for the Championship. Oddly enough, although competition is keen, the personnel of the various teams has not changed to any great extent since last term.

The inclusion of Archie Gemmill in the Scottish squad was a sur-

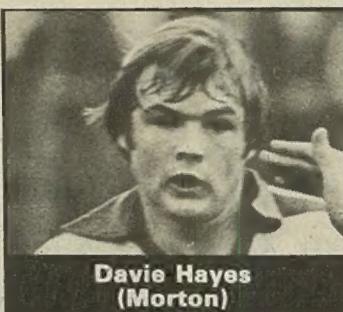
prise to me, and probably to Archie after he had been left out of the side following last year's World Cup. And his departure from Nottingham Forest must have raised a few eye-brows, especially as Asa Hartford didn't stay long with Forest, possibly causing manager Brian Clough to think he had sold Gemmill prematurely.

Archie seems to have settled in well with Birmingham, and Jock Stein obviously feels that he is the sort of player Scotland need in midfield.

Judging on Nottingham Forest's performance when they met Bristol City, it is clear that they do miss him — certainly when we played them, I wasn't impressed. Last season, Forest put pressure on the opposition which could overwhelm them, but this campaign I thought they were poor.



Dave Watson



Davie Hayes
(Morton)

'WHEN WE TOPPED THE DIVISION'

AT the start of this season people were freely tipping Morton for relegation. I wonder how those so called 'experts' are feeling now!

I suppose it was a surprise when we swept to the top of the League, but you can forget all talk about it being a 'false' position. We are there on merit, believe me.



Andy Ritchie

You don't go on a run like ours just because of good luck. Anyone who says that is just plain ignorant. We've a good team here with a great squad of players.

We aren't just Morton players . . . we are Morton supporters! The club means everything to us and we are all delighted with the way things are going.

The policy of this club is to take one game at a time and I believe that is the right attitude. We are afraid of no one and I sincerely doubt if any team can relish the thought of playing at Cappielow these days.

There is no secret formula here. Every player simply works hard and when we are playing we fight for the entire 90 minutes. We have no slackers and it was good to see the likes of Andy Ritchie, Neil Orr and John McNeil being given international recognition recently when Jock Stein pulled them into his Under-21 squad before the match against Belgium. Well done, lads.

It's a good feeling being on top of the League and although I am not saying we will definitely lift the title at the end of the season I am confident that we will not be far away.

And if we do win the Championship don't be too surprised. We will have deserved the prize, believe me.

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SHOOT 6

STILL have a sort of love/hate relationship with my old club Leeds United. Some of their fans still resent the departures of Joe Jordan and myself from Elland Road, and I would love to see them back on their feet and regain some past glories.

Joe and I were very popular at Elland Road yet received a great deal of criticism and abuse after we were transferred in December, 1977, and February, 1978, respectively.

Not because we couldn't get away quick enough. The Leeds supporters were angry at the fact we joined Manchester United.

It's certainly no secret there's been intense rivalry between the two clubs for years, especially among the fans.

So you can perhaps understand the hostile mood of the Leeds crowd towards Joe and I for going over to the arch enemy. We were regarded as traitors.

They may have gone halfway to forgiving us if we had gone to Liver-

pool or Tottenham, a move which seemed likely at the time.

I also left Elland Road under a cloud. When I signed for Manchester United it worked out my second game for them would have been against Leeds. They didn't like that so insisted a clause be written into the contract banning me from playing.

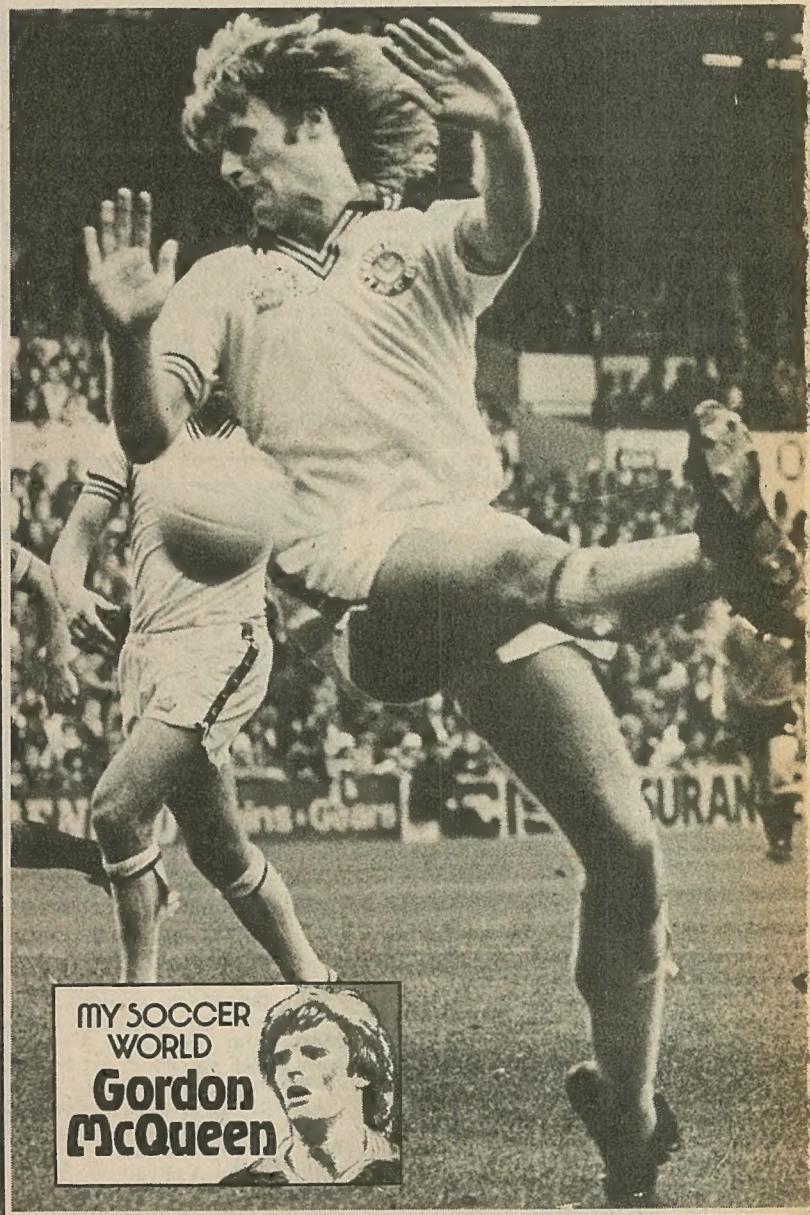
Although I agreed to the restriction I thought it a bit trivial. Still, that's all in the past now.

Because of feeling towards us, Joe and I were obviously looking forward to going back to Elland Road the following season to show those people what they had been missing.

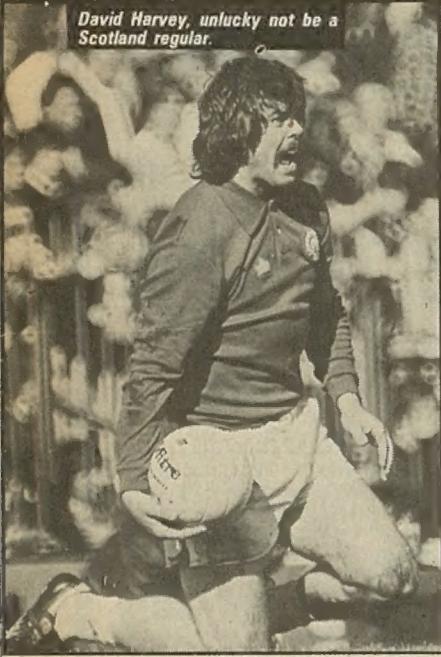
I was still living in Leeds at the time so you can imagine the extra stick I came in for when spotted out shopping, or having a meal with my wife Yvonne. Believe me it was horrible.

Still I got my own back on August 23rd, 1978, by scoring early on with a header that made life even more unpleasant for me and Joe that

'Banned from



David Harvey, unlucky not be a Scotland regular.



evening, but at least Manchester United won.

I did my best to explain the reasons I left Elland Road, but it didn't make any difference. Fans just don't appreciate there must be something drastically wrong if a player is desperate to leave a club, especially one as big as Leeds.

Despite everything I'd still like them to gain success.

Fortunately, I've still many friends among the Leeds fans and of course remain close to the players who were at the club with me — David Harvey, Paul Madeley, Eddie Gray and Trevor Cherry.

Problems for Leeds started the day Don Revie left to take over as England manager.

Brian Clough came and went after 44 days. Jimmy Armfield did his best but he inherited too many great players nearing the end of their careers, players who were practically irreplaceable. Men such as Billy Bremner and Norman Hunter.

Jock Stein took over from Armfield and was regarded as the "new

Don Revie", the type of manager the job had been searching for.

But he only stayed for five minutes before answering his country's call. The Big Man is now my Scotland boss, of course.

Jimmy Adamson replaced Jock and did remarkably well last season. The club ended in fifth position in the table and qualified for Europe for the first time since their ban at the start of 1975-76.

But before this season started Mr. Adamson lost two of his best players, Tony Currie and Frankie Gray.

He couldn't hold on to Currie who wanted to return to London, but it's still a mystery to me why he sold Frankie, the best left-back in the country, to Nottingham Forest.

Adamson has attempted to build his own team, but unfortunately those same fans who turned on Joe and me, are calling for his head.

Leeds supporters have been born and bred on success and big name players, now they're disgruntled.

It might be okay for Liverpool or Manchester United to introduce

ration. Dave's always alert . . . on the boil.

I've often thought how unlucky Dave has been not to be given the opportunity of establishing himself as Scotland's number one 'keeper.

Ironic that now there is an opening he's not around to take it. Dave's been out of the game for the past couple of months with hamstring trouble.

A similar injury prevented me from playing against Manchester City, Crystal Palace, Norwich and Belgium in the European Championship.

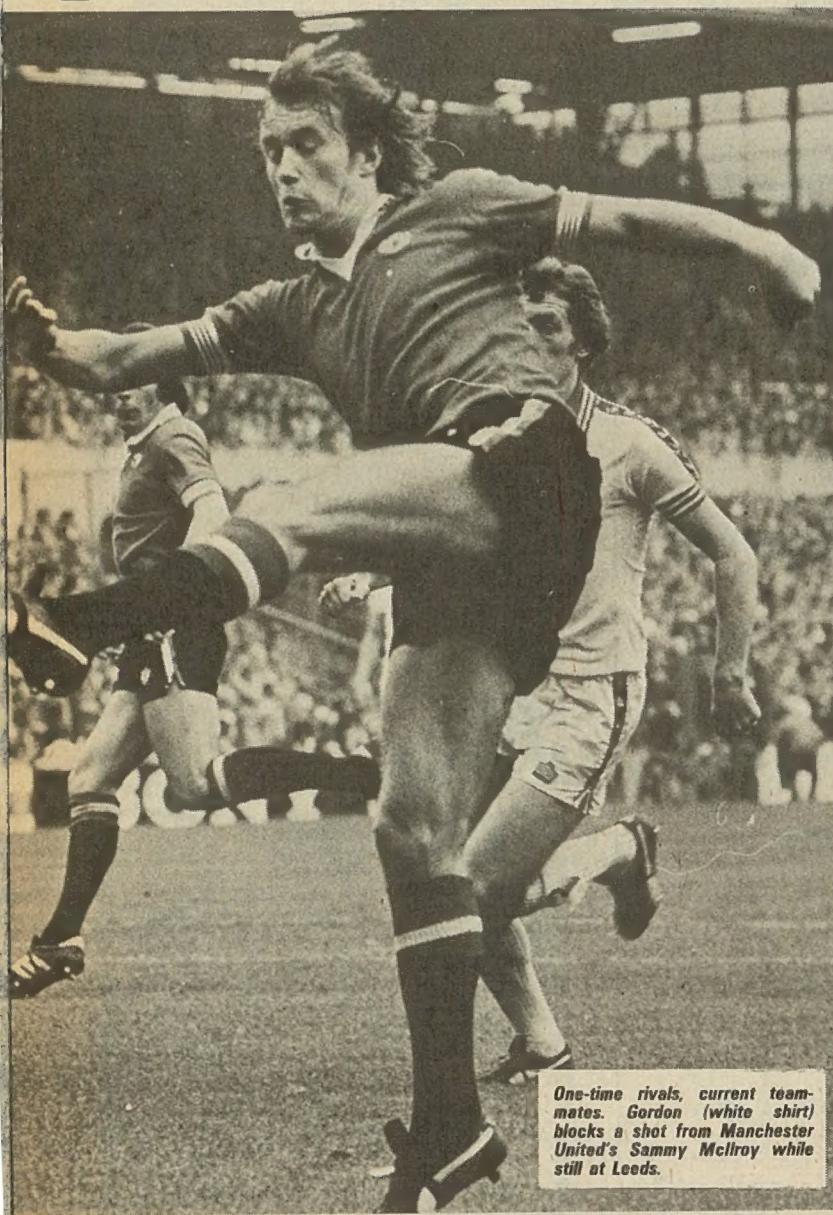
Having to pull out of the Scotland squad was a real sickener. I had desperately wanted to play in Brussels.

Injury also kept several key players out of the match, which Scotland lost 2-0 to end our slender chance of qualifying for Rome.

My hamstring went in the last five minutes of our match against Everton. I jumped for a high ball and felt it snap.

My leg hurt for a few days, then

playing against Leeds'



One-time rivals, current team-mates. Gordon (white shirt) blocks a shot from Manchester United's Sammy McIlroy while still at Leeds.

one or two unknowns into their teams because they are successful and have an abundance of stars, but it's extremely difficult to do that when a team is struggling.

There are no players around they can look up to, draw experience from.

When I first came into the picture at Leeds I had Billy Bremner and Norman Hunter alongside me.

It took several seasons for Don Revie to build up the Super Leeds of the 60's. Every new manager needs time to create stability and get together the team he wants.

Look at Manchester United. Manager Dave Sexton is only just beginning to see the light, the fruits of his groundwork and labour after two years at Old Trafford.

If Jimmy Adamson is allowed to get on with his job for a little longer Leeds fans might get the team their club deserves.

This Saturday (December 8th) the new look Leeds visit Old Trafford so I'll get the chance to assess their potential at close hand.

Mind you, I did see most of the side a couple of weeks ago at Eddie Gray's house.

He held a party to thank all those involved in his testimonial year functions.

There were so many strange faces around it was a peculiar feeling.

Still at least Trevor Cherry, one of the Elland Road stalwarts, was there.

It was also good to see Paul Madeley, looking as fit as ever. I just can't imagine Leeds without him. Jimmy Adamson will need a million to replace Paul . . . if indeed he can.

And, of course, I had a long chat with my old pal David Harvey. We've always been mates, despite that flare-up we had on the pitch against Manchester City a few years ago.

Dave's a smashing 'keeper, so consistent. His strength is concent-

the pain went . . . until I tried to run. Then it felt as though someone was sticking a red hot needle into my leg.

As you know many players suffer hamstring injuries. I don't reckon we pay enough attention to this part of the leg in training.

The trouble with this type of injury is that it can go again just when you think you are on the mend.

Training

It happened to me. I was ready to play against Manchester City, did a couple of days' training and then broke down suddenly.

Let's hope nothing keeps me from playing against Leeds on Saturday.

Do you know in all my years at Elland Road I only remember beating Manchester United once?

The Reds have been a real bogey side to the Elland Roarers.

Last season at Old Trafford Manchester United won 4-1. We were three up by half-time before relaxing to allow them a chance of coming back at us.

On current form I can't see Leeds getting much change out of us this time either. They won't lay the Manchester United ghost just yet.

Oh well, cheers for now. See you in the Christmas issue . . .

David Harvey

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MONEY GRABBERS!

Too many of them in soccer

says Bobby Gould

SPECULATION regarding Geoff Hurst's future at Stamford Bridge finally ended when he was appointed to succeed Danny Blanchflower following a spell as caretaker-manager.

The former West Ham and England hero, who had steered the Blues to a five-game victory march during his caretaker reign, had been widely tipped to take over the Chelsea reins, but his choice of Bobby Gould, from Hereford as assistant raised a considerable number of eyebrows.

Bobby, a brave, boisterous, goal-snapping striker during an excellent playing career that kicked-off with Coventry, moved on to Arsenal, then Wolves, (twice) West Brom, Bristol City, West Ham United, Bristol Rovers, and Hereford United, admitted that the step-up had come as a bit of a surprise to him also.

'Experience'

"I'm delighted that Geoff wanted me as assistant-manager," said Gould, "and while it is true that neither of us had coaching or managerial experience with a top League club, Geoff's three years with Telford United, and my own two years learning the wrinkles of management, one with Bristol Rovers, and the other at Hereford, have made it that much easier.

"I've been impressed by the ability, determination, and effort of the players at Chelsea. With stability and increasing experience I believe that we will be good enough to win promotion.

"We train hard, and the lads enjoy it. All of them want to see the club back in the First Division, and they all have the right attitude.

"I still go along with that statement I made recently, that too many players in the game to-day are in it just for the money. It's got to be more than that. You've got to have players who will give you 100 per cent plus, not only on Saturday, but right through the week. I'm sure that

this is what we will get here.

"You asked me if I was a tough disciplinarian. I believe that you have to have discipline if you are going to get things right, but I wouldn't say I was 'tough'. Fair would be nearer the mark."

You don't play for prestige-clubs like Arsenal, Wolves, West Brom, and West Ham without picking up a fair share of tactical treasure-trove, and Bobby has some ideas of his own that he will air — when the time is right.

"Yes, I've got a few ideas I'd like to try, but you don't arrive at a club and right away start introducing the things you would like to try. You've got to give yourself time to get thoroughly acquainted with the players, their strengths and weaknesses, if any, and the team's playing style. Here again, Geoff's worked with the team, and the changes he has made since coming to the club, have made it easier for me to settle in."

Although the chilling spectre of enormous debt still leans heavily

over Stamford Bridge, Gould made it clear that Chelsea's faith in their home-grown youngsters wouldn't prevent them going into the market-place if a player they wanted became available and the price was right.

Bobby's own extensive knowledge of the transfer trail has also brought him into appreciative contact with the methods and the know-how of the managers he played under.

"They all had their own way of tackling the job," he said, "and they were all good managers. I learned a lot from all of them. Though I'm not prepared to say who was the best manager I played for, I think that I benefited most from my spell with West Ham."

Chelsea too, will doubtless profit from Gould's association with Jimmy Hill at Coventry, Bertie Mee at Arsenal, Bill McGarry at

Wolverhampton, Ron Greenwood at West Ham, and Alan Dicks at Bristol City, but Geoff Hurst's second-in-command has a lot more to offer than the tricks-of-the-trade he gleaned from those eminent bosses.

Courage, determination, and unremitting endeavour always illuminated Gould's performances as a player, made him an opponent to be respected. These qualities, plus his breezy, infectious personality will prove admirable spurs to the ambitious young men of Stamford Bridge, and hopefully lay the foundations of a successful Chelsea future and a profitable Hurst-Gould partnership.

"My first priority is to justify Geoff Hurst's faith in me by giving everything I've got to help hoist Chelsea back to the First Division."

Gould (right) and Hurst together at Stamford Bridge after their appointment to the management at Chelsea.



TWO HAPPY STRIKERS

BUBBLING BRYAN

SUNDERLAND'S Bryan Robson has always been a regular goalscorer — and if his team could show a similar consistency in collecting away points, the Roker club could still finish among the League leaders in May.

Says Bryan: "It's difficult to find a reason for our poor away form. We just can't put a finger on it, but we'll keep on making the effort to correct it."

And getting things right for Sunderland is the main priority in the career of the 34-year-old Robson, the man who rejoined the Wear-siders from West Ham last summer, for the second time.

Born only a short distance from Roker Park, Pop had a distinguished spell with Newcastle United in the 1960's and early 70's before he was transferred to Upton Park in 1971 for £125,000.

Three years later, Robson returned to the North-East when Sunderland bought him for £140,000 from West Ham, and his goal-getting ability helped the Roker men to gain promotion in 1975-6 season. Then after two months in the First Division, Bryan was sold back to The Hammers by manager Bob Stokoe for £80,000.

Attractive

Now, firmly entrenched in his attractive home in Hexham, Northumberland, the ex-Newcastle and West Ham striker is determined to go on scoring goals for some seasons yet, and is thoroughly enjoying his football.

"I'm playing up-front, the position I enjoy most, and our manager, Ken Knighton, has told me to stay there and not drop back too often. My biggest thrill still comes from sticking the ball in the back of the net, and I am striking up a good partnership with John Hawley.

"In the past, a feature of my game has been the way I've worked with big centre-forwards, such as Wyn Davies at Newcastle, and Geoff Hurst, Clyde Best and David Cross at West Ham.

"This season, at Sunderland, in addition to being alongside John Hawley, I'm achieving an understanding with our outside-left, Barry Dunn. Barry gives us width on the flank, and between the three of us, I'm looking forward to favourable results, especially when we are travelling.

"One player we do miss, though,



David Johnson is a happy man. By his own admission: "Life couldn't be better at the moment."

The one-time Anfield misfit has suddenly come good, and his incredible return to goalscoring form this year not only helped Liverpool to clinch their 11th League Championship in record-breaking style last season, but has also guided The Reds back to the top of the table after a shaky start this time.

The Kenny Dalglish-David Johnson striking partnership is the most feared in football, but the likeable Liverpudlian realises the need to keep a level head.

"Nobody can afford to be complacent here, least of all me. I'm probably under greater pressure than anybody else in the team. The defence is covered by Colin Irwin, midfield by Avi Cohen, but I've got Steve Heighway, David Fairclough

JOLLY JOHNSON

and Frank McGarvey all breathing down my neck.

"There's been a lot of talk about the great Liverpool crisis this season, but you only have to look at the League tables to see how much of a crisis there is at Anfield.

"Last season was an exceptional one, and perhaps we have become too self-critical because we are judging ourselves by such amazing high standards.

"It has been harder this season, because the team is not operating consistently as a unit, but all that has started to return, and it is up to the other clubs to stop us retaining our League title.

"At Ipswich, if we had a bad run we got hammered by the boss, and you could feel the tension in the side because of it.

"That doesn't happen here. Everybody knew we were playing badly, but we just continued as normal, and things have ironed themselves out. When you're in a bad patch you need encouragement. The lectures should come when a team is playing well to prevent complacency.

"At other clubs you're sometimes thrown back into action too soon after injury. I had a muscle strain recently and they didn't put me straight back in as it might have gone again. At Liverpool they tend to ask players how they feel and then add another three days."

Johnson is a relaxed and genial person, but on the serious side he

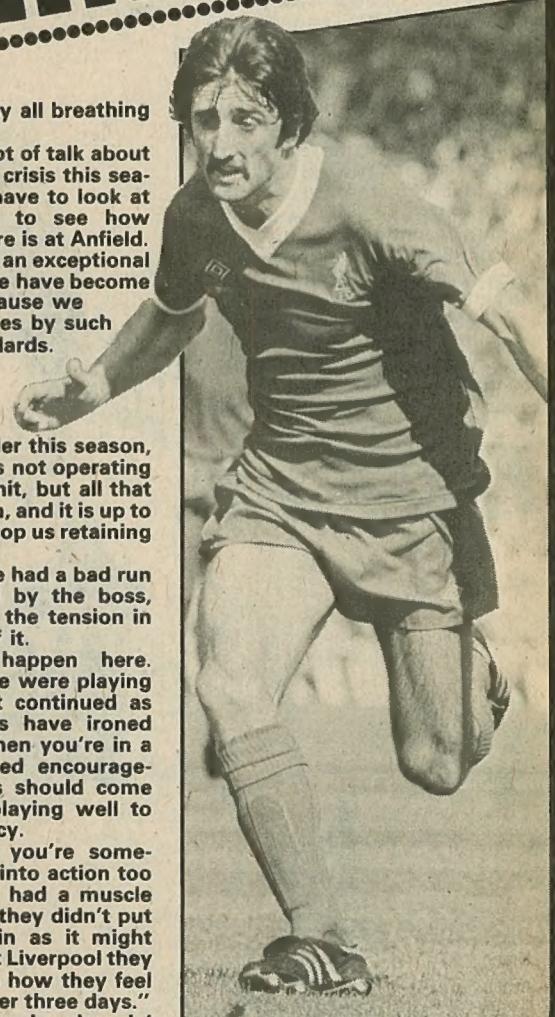
has clearly thought out plans for the future.

"I want to open a pub somewhere on the outskirts of Liverpool. Now the present period of two games a week has calmed down a little, we can start looking for the right place."

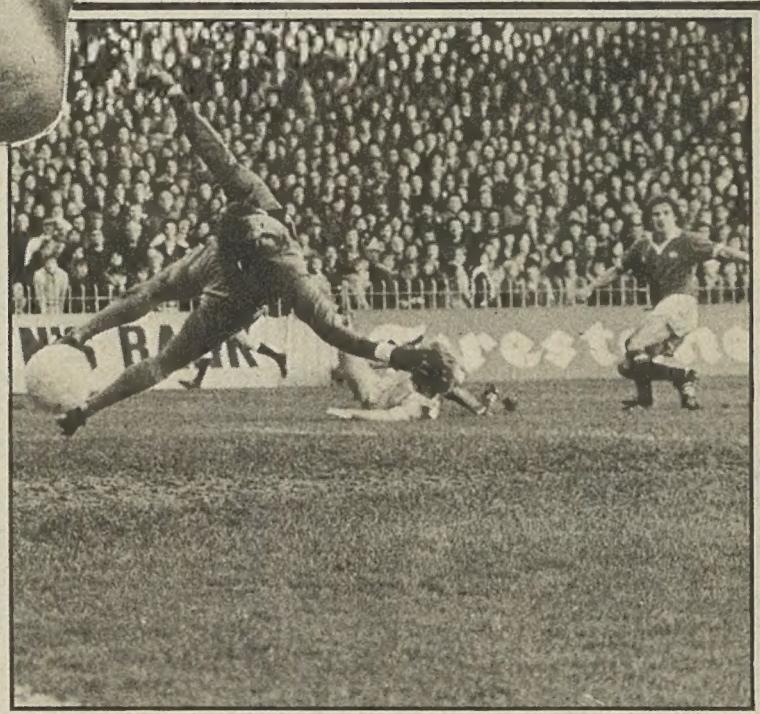
Although only 27, Johnson is fast becoming one of the elder statesmen in a Liverpool side which seems to get younger as the years go by. But he has an appetite for the game which is as voracious as ever.

"Here at Anfield there's a run of success that goes back unbroken for 16 years. Being realistic, it's got to stop sometime. But I'll tell you — it's not going to be for a long time yet."

Ironic, then, that at the peak of his career, Johnson is one of the few Liverpool players not involved in the international scene. "I won three caps while I was with Ipswich and scored three goals. An England recall would be the icing on the cake."



SKY DIVERS



Arsenal's Pat Jennings in command — as usual (top). The airborne acrobatics of Coventry 'keeper Les Sealey are to no avail as Southampton's grounded Charlie George heads home (above, left), but Manchester City's Joe Corrigan just manages to deflect this shot from United's Steve Coppell to safety (above, right). Petar Borota's unorthodox techniques in Chelsea's goal have cheered the fans, but there's no doubting the quality of this save against Sunderland (left).

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- * 1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1 200ft/400ft

- * 1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1 200ft

- * 1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1 200ft

- * 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400ft

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- * 1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0 100ft

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- * 1971 Spurs 2, Aston V. 0 50ft

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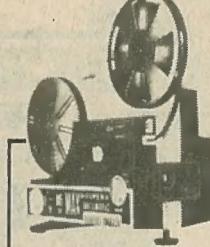
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- * 1973 Rangers 3, Celtic 2 200ft

- * 1972 Celtic 6, Hibs 1 100ft

FALKIRK

BILLY JOHNSTON

FALKIRK are odds on favourites to win the Scottish Second Division title this season and one man who is working hard for such a reward is skipper Billy Johnston. He might not have been blessed with the skills of a superstar but his

grim determination makes him absolutely vital to the Brockville side. His inspirational values are priceless and there is no way Falkirk will fail to get a place in the First Division if Johnston has anything to do with it. Billy has already had a taste of soccer in the big time and he is desperate to get back into the top flight. His ambition is now flowing right through John Haggart's side, making them a good bet to take the Championship at the end of the season.



NEWPORT

DAVE BRUTON

DEFENDABLE club captain whose return to the Newport County side after a long spell of injuries has coincided with the club's renewed challenge for promotion to Division Three. Dave started his career with Bristol City, but after only 17 League appearances was transferred to Swansea in 1973. Played 193 League games for the Vetch Field side, and helped The Swans to promotion to Division Three two seasons

ago. But the arrival of Welsh international Leighton Phillips last year meant that Dave was surplus to manager John Toshack's requirements. Newport signed him in October, 1978 for a bargain £17,500 fee. Keith Oakes has done a fine job as captain in Bruton's absence, but there can be no doubt that the County fans are delighted to have Dave back as they make a determined effort for promotion.

ALEC
RAE



FORFAR ATH.

ONLY two years ago the names of Alec Rae and little Forfar were ready to shake the soccer world. They were just seven minutes away from a sensational and dramatic League Cup Semi-Final victory over Rangers at Hampden. It would have been the shock of the century if Rae and his colleagues had pulled off a triumph, but their dreams were blitzed when Derek Parfane glided in a last-gasp equaliser and the superior stamina and strength of the Ibrox team told in extra-time when they scored another three.

Forfar, though, showed that night that they are a fine side, one swiftly gaining respect from their fellow professionals. Player/manager Archie Knox is quick to appreciate Rae's value to the team, and made him his successor as skipper of the team at the start of the season. Knox has had to work on a shoe-string basis in the running of the Station Park team, but midfield player Alec Rae is one commodity Knox cannot afford to let go as Forfar try to gain a First Division place.



NEWCASTLE UTD.

MICK MARTIN

REPUBLIC of Ireland international midfield player with more than 30 full caps in a career spent with four clubs. Mick started with Bohemians and, like many other promising Young Irish players, was soon signed by Manchester United. By this time he had already won seven full international caps, the first coming in 1972 against Austria. Stayed three years with United, but made only 40 League appearances in that time. Transferred to West Bromwich Albion in 1976 and played another 89

League games, scoring 11 goals. The fine form of Bryan Robson and John Trewick, however, meant that Mick was surplus to Albion's requirements last season, and so Newcastle United manager Bill McGarry was quick to move in for him a year ago. Has soon settled in at St James' Park, and alongside club captain Terry Hibbitt, team skipper Mick has been largely responsible for The Magpies challenge at the top of the Second Division this season with some fine, consistent performances.

FULHAM



RICHARD
MONEY

actually improved despite the absence of three key players. Such was his immediate impact on the team that Campbell was also able to release Ernie Howe to Q.P.R. and with Tony Gale, Money now forms one of the best central defensive partnerships in the Second Division. Came on as substitute for the England 'B' team v. New Zealand in October and will surely earn his first full England cap if he maintains his current rate of progress.

WTIH transfer fees currently spiralling beyond control, the £40,000 Fulham manager Bobby Campbell paid Scunthorpe for utility player Richard Money (above left) in November, 1977, must rank as one of the bargains of the decade. Richard arrived at Craven Cottage as George Best, Teddy Maybank and Peter Storey were finishing their careers at Fulham, and there can be no greater testimony to his contribution to the team than in the fact that results



JOE
WARK

MOTHERWELL

He has seen managers come and go with almost monotonous regularity in that time, but, through it all, he has stayed taking the ups along with the downs. Motherwell, currently being revamped by former Scottish international manager Ally MacLeod, are determined to come bouncing back into the Premier Division next season and the experience of Wark will be a vital commodity in what is basically a young side.

BRIAN Clough and Peter Taylor, Sir Matt Busby and Manchester United, Liverpool and success ... there are some partnerships in soccer that are extremely difficult to break up. That is also the case with Joe Wark and Motherwell. Left-back Wark, who has won a couple of Scottish League caps in a long and distinguished career, joined up at Fir Park 11 years ago from Ayrshire Junior side Irvine Vics and he has been a mainstay in their team ever since.

JOHN OVERTON



GILLINGHAM

INJURIES have restricted John Overton's appearances for Gillingham this season, but he has returned to the side in recent weeks and reclaimed the captaincy from full-back John Sharpe. Overton's career started with Aston Villa, who he joined straight from school, but his League debut came at Halifax, where he spent a few months on loan. Returned to Villa Park, making his First Division debut towards the end of the 1975/76 season, but played only two more games before he was signed

by Gillingham in May, 1976. John's first season with the club was not a particularly successful one, playing most of his games in a midfield role, but the following season he converted to centre-back and won the club's Player of the Year award. Gerry Summers' side have been challenging hard for promotion to the Second Division for the past two seasons, and John Overton's return to the side can only strengthen Gillingham's hopes that this season will prove third time lucky.

DAVIE HAYES

MORTON'S rugged right-back Davie Hayes gets annoyed when people dismiss the capabilities of the Greenock side. "We're in this Premier Division to stay," he says with conviction.

"We deserve to be here and we have no intention of letting our place in the Top Ten slip without a fight." Those are stirring words from Hayes, who joined Morton straight from school in 1968. He has remained loyal to the club for the past decade and has

certainly played a captain's part. Two seasons ago as he led his team to the First Division title. Now Morton are making their critics eat their words with some superb displays in the Premier Division and Cappielow is a place where no team can look forward to visiting Hayes and company are not of that.

MORTON



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BILLY Ronson and his wife Julie crossed the doorway of their brand new Fleetwood home after an Ibiza honeymoon last summer — and walked straight into a shock. The newspapers piled up on the mat splashed a story that Cardiff City were prepared to break all their spending records to sign him from Blackpool.

"It was the first thing I'd heard about it," says Billy — whose aggressive style, mobility, attacking 'bite' and physical stature (five feet four inches, nine stone 11 lbs) make comparisons between him and a young Billy Bremner inevitable.

Like Bremner, too, the 22-year-old Cardiff midfield player has experienced his share of controversy. Last season at Blackpool, he saw the yellow card ten times and collected a staggering 40 disciplinary points.

"That's gone now," says Ronson. "All that trouble with referees last season stemmed from frustra-

tion. Blackpool were in the Third Division and I hated it. The whole season was a nightmare.

"One by one the players had been leaving Blackpool. Paul Hart to Leeds, George Wood and Mickey Walsh to Everton, Bob Hatton to Luton, Dave Tong to Shrewsbury, Steve Harrison to Watford via Vancouver. In the end, there was only Peter Suddaby and myself left. Then I had chances with Ipswich and Aston Villa.

"I went to both clubs for week-long trials but, in the end, nothing came of either. That disappointment at missing out on First Division football and twice returning to the Third just came to the boil. "At Blackpool, it went from bad to worse. Bob Stokoe fined me £50 for each booking. There were some Saturday evenings when Julie and I went out with £3 in our pockets and hoped we wouldn't meet any friends!

"The worst blow of all came when I reached 40 points. Bob Stokoe called me in, told me I was suspended for two weeks without

pay and that I wasn't to come to the club.

"I trained by myself on the beach and running along the roads — and I desperately wanted to play. In the second week of that suspension, I read in the papers that Blackpool had one of their worst injury crises for years. I contacted Bob Stokoe and said 'Look, I'll play for nothing to help you out'. He replied 'Thanks, but the directors wouldn't allow it'. That was the end for me."

It was obvious that there was not the slightest chance of the fiery, ambitious Ronson returning to Bloomfield Road and his career was in limbo when he returned from his honeymoon in the Spanish sun.

"Cardiff was a big decision. We had bought and furnished in Fleetwood the kind of home we had always wanted and were looking forward to moving in ... and South Wales is a long way from Lancashire. But we talked it over

WHEN BILLY OFFERED TO PLAY FOR NOTHING

and decided that my career in football had to take precedence over everything else."

Morgan was hardly concerned about one of the worst disciplinary records last season in the Football League. "I knew those ten bookings had all stemmed from Billy's position at Blackpool and his sheer determination to do better for himself than the Third Division.

"I wanted someone with ambition and talent; I wanted a midfield player who would give us the ball-winning capacity and the ability to distribute it and I wanted a young player who is going to get a great deal better. Billy is all of those things. His behaviour on the pitch for us has been just as I knew it would — no problem at all."

Ronson stands for no nonsense from Q.P.R.'s Stan Bowles (hoops) at Loftus Road



Ronson stands for no nonsense from Q.P.R.'s Stan Bowles (hoops) at Loftus Road

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, U.K. readers receive £5 for the Star Letter, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. published. Overseas readers receive a special £2 for every other letter which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from M. J. McDonald of Dundee, who wins our special prize of £5. He writes:

DUNDEE CAN SUPPORT TWO TEAMS

Question: Is the City of Dundee big enough to support two teams? Answer: YES!

The attendances are low because:

- (a) The ground facilities are very poor,
- (b) neither ground is fully covered,
- (c) The Dundee public are sick to the teeth of seeing players transferred South and told "we had to sell to survive," or, "it is a way of life for Scots to go South."

Bear in mind we are expected to support both clubs regardless of transfers, facilities etc, and we pay the same admission as supporters at Anfield, Old Trafford and White Hart Lane.

The question of which ground, manager, directors and players. These are not impossible obstacles. A lot of talking would be needed and, economically, something should be done and past memories forgotten.

With regard to which ground should be given up. One solution is a sports complex as in Barcelona, incorporating various sporting activities for the public to enjoy.

In conclusion, if amalgamation is out, why don't the two teams use the one ground as do the two Milan teams and thereby cut down the cost of maintenance?

It's about time something was done in the city of Dundee as far as professional football is concerned. I hope through your pages someone with some enterprise for the future will eventually do something before it is too late.

● Pride is something no football club is going to give up. Pride stops a lot of progression in football ... not just in Dundee, but in many other places where sharing, amalgamation etc. makes financial sense.

Sympathy for Crewe

ALTHOUGH a Walsall supporter, I was saddened to see them win a game against Crewe recently that looked so poor. It was felt that it should have been allowed. It seemed a clear case of a linesman not having his mind on the game at the time,

and the referee taking the fact that he didn't flag as an indication of the player concerned being onside.

As a result, a Crewe player was given a red card for protests with which almost everyone on the ground agreed, and poor old Tony Waddington, the Crewe manager, was prevented from voicing a protest for fear of being punished further by the F.A. On top of all this, the referee refused to offer any explanation for his action and according to F.A. rules was quite within his right in so doing.

This unfortunate incident cost Crewe at least one point and could ultimately be a factor in them having to apply for re-election again and even possibly losing their League place. Yet just nothing can be done about the result and the referee and linesman in question will continue officiating at matches.

Just to add insult to injury I learned a few days later that one of the F.A. assessors who watch matches and report upon standards of refereeing is a man who was himself removed from the referee's list two years ago after a series of sendings off that underlined his incompetence.

It seems that as far as the football authorities are concerned we have already reached the horrors depicted in George Orwell's book '1984'.

VALERIE HEKSCHER,
WOLVERHAMPTON.

● I didn't see this particular incident, but referees, like players, will ALWAYS make mistakes. A referee's or a linesman's error is, like a goalkeeper's, far more obvious, because there is no second chance. If what you say about the assessor is true, then there does appear to be something wrong.

Risky Rangers

WHO does Derek Johnstone think he is? He claims Peter McCloy would have saved Steve Ritchie's shot in the Scottish Cup Final, 1978, had the game been goalless at the time.

Rangers were leading Aberdeen 2-0 with four minutes to go, but anything can happen in four minutes, as we saw in last season's English Cup Final.

Do Rangers only give 100 per cent effort when they feel like it? Or do they take their chances in Finals?

ALASTAIR GRAHAM,
PRESTWICK.

● As Rangers won, it doesn't really matter. But anyone who relaxes in a Cup Final is asking for trouble. Ask Manchester United.

TWO PERSONALITIES RETURN TO THEIR FORMER CLUBS

'I SHOULD HAVE LEFT IPSWICH EARLIER'

COLIN VILJOEN (Man. City)



COLIN Viljoen goes back to Ipswich this Saturday (December 8th) hoping to play his first game at Portman Road since his departure from the East Anglian club.

Viljoen, now with Manchester City, is determined to make the side for this Saturday's clash at the ground where he played for 13 years.

He has some great memories of life at Ipswich, but admits: "I should have left earlier than I did. I was there 13 years and it was a hell of a long time with just one club. I enjoyed it but felt I needed a new challenge, something fresh to get my teeth into."

"I will be very upset if I'm not fit to play this Saturday. I missed last season's match because of injury, and I haven't played at Portman Road since I was transferred 18 months ago."

If Viljoen returns this Saturday, he will find an Ipswich side struggling badly near the foot of the First Division.

"I believe a lot of it has to do with the departure of Cyril Lea as coach," says Viljoen. "I worked under Cyril for years and realise what an important part he played in the side's success. When he was there, things went well and I'm sure they have missed him."

"I can't see Ipswich going down because they have too many good

players. And their 3-1 win against Southampton will have encouraged them and helped their confidence."

Viljoen believes the Ipswich side of 1975 was the best he played in.

"We beat a very good Leeds side in the F.A. Cup Quarter-Finals that year and to do that, proved our quality. Leeds had a tremendous side and as the game went to three replays before we won we proved it was no fluke."

"We lost to West Ham in a Semi-Final replay, but we were terribly unlucky and we should have won the Cup that year."

'Marvellous'

"Around that time, we were also playing some of the best teams in Europe in the U.E.F.A. Cup. We met sides like Real Madrid and Feyenoord, and going all over Europe to play those matches was a marvellous experience."

"I think Ipswich may find it hard to get back to those times without a coach like Cyril Lea. He was always so good for the club. I have never regretted leaving them even though I enjoyed my stay."

"It will be good to play there again and after the injury niggles I've had on and off for the past two years, I'm hopeful I shall be fit and well for the big game this Saturday."

LEICESTER City fans get a chance to indulge in a brief spell of nostalgia this Saturday when Orient visit Filbert Street.

The return of Orient manager Jimmy Bloomfield to the club where he was in charge for six years, will bring back memories of the success times Leicester enjoyed under him.

Seventh place in the First Division and a run to the Semi-Final of the F.A. Cup — both happened during Bloomfield's reign at Filbert Street. And, with Leicester now languishing in the Second Division, it is a worthy thought that Bloomfield — and the First Division good time days — might still be there but for a disagreement which mushroomed out of control.

Bloomfield says: "I left on a matter of principle. I was happy there for five of my six years but the person behind my departure is no longer with the club. I have no bad feelings whatsoever towards the club — it's a smashing place with wonderful people."

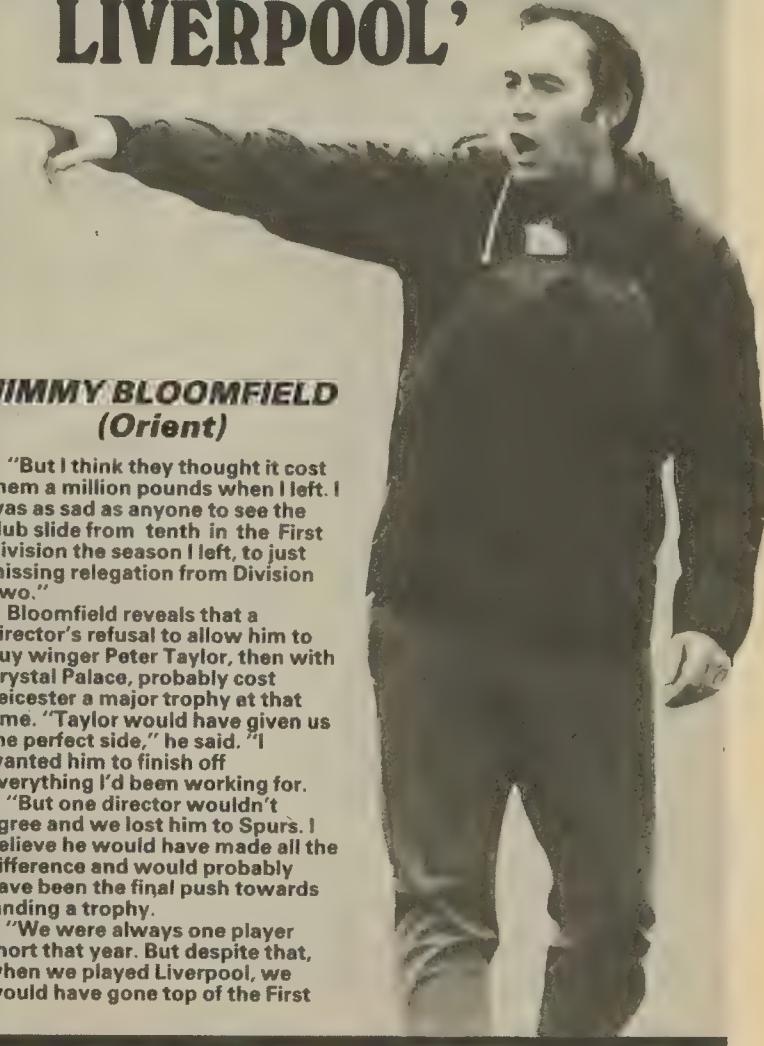
Division for the first time in 25 years, had we won. That showed how close we were to success."

"That side that also reached the Cup Semi-Final was a great one. Shilton, Whitworth, Rofe, Blockley, Sims, Weller, Samuels, Kimber, Birchenall, Earle, Worthington, Garland. At the time, people told me they were playing the best football any Leicester side had produced for 25 years."

"I still believe that Peter Shilton was a better goalkeeper than he has been at any stage since. I'll never change my opinion on that. And some of the football we played was absolutely fantastic; some of the best of the time from any side."

"It disappointed me to see Leicester go down. So much work had been done at the club in my time by so many people. Relegation was a poor reward. I had the feeling when we were going so well that if we'd got the crowds we would have become another Liverpool. But the lack of support held us back."

'LEICESTER COULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER LIVERPOOL'



JIMMY BLOOMFIELD
(Orient)

"But I think they thought it cost them a million pounds when I left. I was as sad as anyone to see the club slide from tenth in the First Division the season I left, to just missing relegation from Division Two."

Bloomfield reveals that a director's refusal to allow him to buy winger Peter Taylor, then with Crystal Palace, probably cost Leicester a major trophy at that time. "Taylor would have given us the perfect side," he said. "I wanted him to finish off everything I'd been working for."

"But one director wouldn't agree and we lost him to Spurs. I believe he would have made all the difference and would probably have been the final push towards landing a trophy."

"We were always one player short that year. But despite that, when we played Liverpool, we would have gone top of the First

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Blue Leeds

My Dad says that, before Don Revie became manager, Leeds played in blue and gold. Is he right?

BRENDAN MACKINNEY,
NOTTINGHAM

• Dad's spot-on, Brendan. That's how it was at Elland Road when Revie decided on a change.

Know why? He was a great admirer of Real Madrid, and — though when he took over Leeds were in danger of dropping into the Third Division — he determined he was going to try and match the famous Spanish side.

Revie's first step was to "pinch" their all-white strip. His later steps didn't do too badly for Leeds, either!

England v. Russia

Have England ever played Russia in a full international?

PHILIP CHISSETT,
PAIGNTON

• Yes, they have. Philip, seven times — with three wins for England, one to Russia, and three draws.

These were the results. England score first — 1-1 (Moscow, 18 May, 1958); 2-2 (Gothenburg, 8 June, 1958); 0-1

(Göteborg, 12 June, 1958); 5-0 (Wembley, 22 October, 1958); 2-2 (Wembley, 6 December, 1967); 2-0 (Rome, 8 June, 1968); 2-1 (below, Moscow, 10 June, 1973).

The two Gothenburg games were World Cup ties, while that in Rome was in the European Championship.



Line-up

What was the England line-up when Scotland were beaten 9-3 at Wembley?

PAUL ROWE,
REDCAR

• This was the team that day (15 April, 1961). Paul

Ron Springett (Sheffield United)	Jack Charlton (Ireland)
Jimmy Armfield (Bury)	Mick Channon (Brentford)
McNeil (Middlesbrough)	Bob Luton (Luton Town)
Dobby (West Bromwich)	Peter Swan (Sheffield Wednesday)
Wed.) Ron Flowers (Wolves)	Brian Greaves (Leeds United)
Douglas (Blackburn)	Jimmy Greaves (Chelsea)
Jimmy (Chelsea)	Bobby Smith (Sunderland)
Haynes (Fulham)	John Charles (Cardiff City)
(capt.) Bobby Charlton (Manchester United)	Pat Quinn (Hibernian)

Robson, Greaves (3), Douglas Smith (2) and Haynes (2) scored for England. Mackay, Wilson and Quinn replying for the Scots.

indicated Huddersfield attacks which took the honours.

I don't know what the price is on your old ticket — but I'm sure it's considerably less than nowadays.

The total gate receipts were £26,265 compared with £500,000 last season.

SHORT PASSES

• Manchester United's record gate at Old Trafford is 70,504 iv. Aston Villa, Div One, 27th December, 1920.

(FOUAID SIBLINE, Lebanon)

• The biggest Welsh win over the Irish in the British Championship is by 11-0 at Wrexham on 3rd March, 1888.

(CARWEL WYN JONES, Anglesey)

• The Leeds team beaten 2-0 by Bayern Munich in the 1975 European Cup Final was: Stewart Reaney, Gray (Frank), Bremer, Madley, Hunter, Lorimer, Clarke, Jordan, Giles, Yorath. (Eddie Gray came on as sub for Yorath.)

(BRIAN FLYNN, Eire)

• Preston have played in seven F.A. Cup Finals — winning in 1889 and 1938; and losing in 1888, 1922, 1937, 1954, and 1964.

(ROBERT WORTHINGTON, Preston)

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TONY Brown's last season in the First Division. West Bromwich Albion's striker is likely to leave the club and wind-up his career in a lower Division.

They are typical of the remarks flying around the Midlands this season. But mention them anywhere near The Hawthorns and

you're likely to be the victim of cruel abuse, possibly worse.

For "Bomber" Brown has made it quite clear that he has no intention of retiring after 18 years at West Bromwich Albion — and manager Ron Atkinson has no plans to put Brown out to grass in the reserves.

He joined West Brom as an apprentice from school in April, 1961 and since making his debut against Ipswich at Portman Road in September, 1963 has had one of the most distinguished careers of any player currently appearing in the First Division.

The Oldham-born former England striker has won a League Cup winner's medal and an F.A. Cup winner's medal. He has also smashed the club's record for most League appearances and last season he surpassed Ronnie Allen's club record of 208 League goals.

Now, with a three year contract signed at the beginning of this campaign and a second testimonial match to come, the evergreen 34-year-old is still bombing along.

Tony may well have reached the so called veteran stage, which tempts people to question his ability to go on for much longer, but says: "I'm no where near the end of the road."

"Age has got nothing to do with it, and this is something that Johnny Giles instilled into us when he was manager at Albion."

"When a player reaches a certain age people tend to regard him as finished. It's a ridiculous statement to make. There's people of the calibre of Alan Ball and Martin Peters still turning it on. In this game it's how you feel and how you look after yourself that counts."

"If you feel fit, there's no reason why you shouldn't carry on playing, and I feel as fit as ever."

"I may have been left out of our League side a few times, but no individual has a divine right to a place. You've got to keep fighting for it. So the message from me is, 'Don't write off Tony Brown just yet'."

"Ron Atkinson is obviously looking for younger men and he's already told me so. At the beginning of the season he indicated he was more or less going to play me in spasms. But I'm still definitely a part of the squad and the set up. I still figure in the plans."

Earlier on in the season Tony played up-front — a position he doesn't like.

TONY KEEPS BOMBING ALONG!

"I'm not an out-and-out striker who plays up the park with his back to the defence. My main strong point is coming from midfield and running on to the ball. My game is spotting gaps and going through them."

"This is where the majority of my goals have come from — a midfield position."

"We used to play to Jeff Astle and he would knock the ball down with his head. Even in those days I used to arrive late from midfield to gather up the flick-offs."

"Over the recent years I've played in midfield, just breaking whenever possible."

"My most memorable moment was when Albion won the F.A. Cup in 1968. That stands out above everything. There's something about the F.A. Cup. It's got tradition and charisma of its own. Each round comes and you get over it, then you build up to the big day and you go out and win the trophy. It's a fantastic feeling."

'Performance'

"We won the League Cup in 1965/66 — that was when it was a two-legged affair. We lost 2-1 at West Ham and won 4-1 in the return at The Hawthorns. We played tremendously that night and I would put that match as the best Albion performance I've ever played in."

"I scored in every round leading up to the Final. I didn't notch one at Upton Park, but I did at The Hawthorns."

Tony won one England cap, against Wales in 1971. Having scored with such deadly consistency, is he disappointed at not having been selected more?

"Sometimes I am which, I suppose, is a natural reaction. I'm just pleased to have played the one game because there's many a player who hasn't even done that."

"I've also enjoyed every minute of my time at Albion. I've been paid for doing the thing I like best — and that's playing football."

AFTER two happy and successful seasons, which saw Watford as Champions of Division Four in 1978 and Third Division runners-up in 1979, Luther Blissett and his team-mates are facing a stern test of their character in Division Two.

"We're used to being a winning side," said Luther, "but we haven't been getting the results this season."

"We've always been willing to battle and fight for results, but it's harder in the Second Division. The standard is much higher. There are a lot of very good players around."

"When we played Manchester United in the League Cup, last season, we really fancied beating them. We knew it would be a real achievement. Now that's turned around. Other teams work harder to beat us. It's something we've got to learn to live with."

Exciting

Blissett's two goals against United, at Old Trafford, were seen by millions on T.V. He made a name for himself overnight. It was an exciting time for the cheerful youngster, but those headlines meant less space out on the park.

"I'm working hard in training on my close control," he explained. "We're trying a lot of one-two moves around the penalty-box too. Our job is to break defences down. There is more pressure now, because you create fewer openings. When you get a chance, you really want to stick it away, because you know the next one could be a long time coming."

"It's hard at the moment, but I'm

confident I'll learn from this season and I'll come out of it as a better player."

Last season, Blissett hit 28 goals for Watford. Strikers live on goals, so it has been difficult for him to maintain his self-confidence this term.

knows that there are lessons to be learnt this season. But visit the Watford ground and see the extensive development work that is taking place and you sense the hunger for more success. And First Division football.

"I'd like to think we can do it," said Luther, "but obviously our main aim at the moment is to consolidate our place in the Second. If we start to string a few results together, a lot of the old confidence will come flooding back and we'll start to show our true potential."

"It's not an easy time for us, but we'll come through it. Just wait and see."

ABOUT TURN!

Now Watford are the team they want to beat claims Luther Blissett

"I still believe I'm capable of scoring goals," he said. "The team hasn't been playing as well as I know it can and the chances haven't been coming. When they have come, I've been a little over-anxious and snatched at them. I know you shouldn't go home and think about the games you lose, but it's difficult not to run it all through in your mind."

"When you're used to scoring and you're in a good run, it becomes very easy. Sometimes you just hit the ball at the goal and it'll go in. But when the goals dry up, it seems that everything is against you. Nothing you try comes off."

"You've got to try harder, until you get it right. And you've got to keep believing in yourself."

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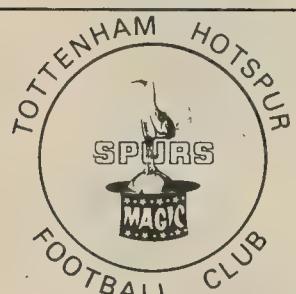
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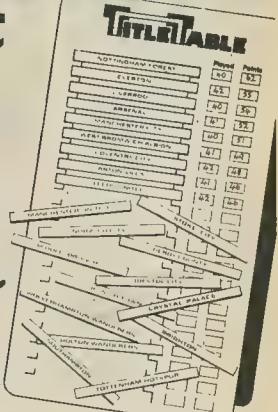
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'GEORGE STILONE OF THE BEST'

IT'S been called the most ambitious transfer move in Scottish soccer history and I'm certainly not going to disagree with that. I'm talking, of course, about Hibs and the one-and-only George Best.

How do I think he will fare in the Premier Division with the Easter Road club? I'm certain the Irishman will do well, and he has already hit the headlines with a goal on his debut against St Mirren.

He is a bit heavier and older these days, but I doubt if that will hinder him. He'll be using his head more and saving his feet. He has said himself that all he needs is a team of 19 and 20-year-olds around him and he will be a success. I'm not going to argue with that.

I've met him a couple of times and I have been amazed by his quiet spoken attitude. He is hardly

the hell-raiser some people would have you believe.

He is reserved, polite and understanding. He doesn't look for the spotlight and I must say I have been very impressed by his attitude.

As a player I would say he was absolutely outstanding. I rate him among the best three players I



Tartan Talk

DEREK JOHNSTONE

difficult question simply because there are so many. He was different class when he decided to turn it on and he could bewilder any defence.

I remember when he scored six goals in an English Cup match

against Northampton. Every goal was stamped with his special brand of genius. I seem to recall that the Northampton keeper that day was Kim Book... brother of Manchester City's Tony.

Best set standards for others to follow and I, personally, wish him all the luck in the world in his latest comeback bid. He deserves to succeed because talent like that should not go to waste.

Okay, he may be 33 and the legs might not be so swift, but his thinking is still way ahead of a lot of other young players and if he can get them to work with him, then the move could be a winner.

People often say it was a terrible shame that George was such a wayward genius, but let's look at it from another direction. If he had had a different personality would he have been the same player? Would he have tried the same 'impossible' things if his character wasn't so flamboyant? I doubt it.

Anyway, I'm as intrigued as anyone about this move. Scottish soccer certainly needs personalities and George Best obviously fills that bill. Good luck again, George.

Back on the Rangers front, we have a tough League match on Saturday (December 8) when we travel to Cappielow to take on high flying Morton.

Earlier in the season they held us to a 2-2 draw where I scored both Rangers' goals. I wouldn't mind doing likewise on Saturday without Morton scoring at all!

That's all for this week. Take care and I'll see you in a fortnight.



HIBS F.C.

TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK

NOBBY



Go for the Double

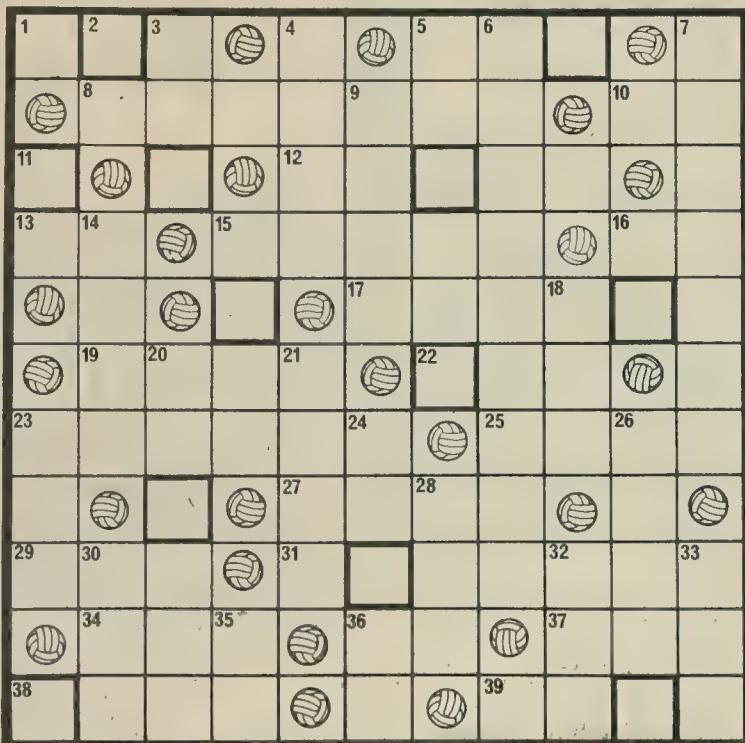
After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Brighton midfield player. Answers on page 32.

ACROSS:

- (1) -ohn Sh--, Bristol City goalkeeper.
- (5) Loud continuous noise.
- (8) He (hopefully) gets the team into peak performance.
- (10) R-ke- Park, Sunderland.
- (12) — Road Ground of Oxford United.
- (13) Rainer Bonh--, West Germany midfield player.
- (15) — Beattie, Ipswich Town defender.
- (16) Ian — John; former famous player with Liverpool.
- (17) Peter —, of Everton, previously with Q.P.R.
- (19) They are changed halfway through the match.
- (22) Neil Smil--- of Crystal Palace.
- (23) Host country of the 1958 World Cup Finals.
- (25) Make a sudden, rapid run.
- (27) --rt Va--, the Valiants.
- (29) A-r--ome Park; ground of club in Clue 6 Down.
- (31) Where Deepdale can be found.
- (34) Willie ---ng of Arsenal.
- (36) Por--; What completes the Portuguese club name?
- (37) Eric G---s of Ipswich Town.
- (38) — Park, home of Dundee.
- (39) Frank-t--l-ton (Arsenal). Church part from the omissions.

DOWN:

- (2) John --yeo formerly Bristol City.
- (3) Shre-sbu-- Town from Gay Meadow.
- (4) The ref needs to keep an accurate watch on it!
- (5) Contradiction or refusal.
- (6) The —, nickname of Middlesbrough.
- (7) Expression of dissent.
- (9) Ro-D--l-s, former Welsh international striker.
- (11) Mark --odwin of Leicester City.
- (14) ---lo-s Park (Walsall).
- (17) Traveled through the air from the missing letters.
- (15) Brian —, Everton player.
- (16) Graeme --uness, Liverpool.
- (18) --rry Curr-n, Sheff.Wed.
- (20) Sammy —, Arsenal defender.
- (21) —Maier, of W. Germany.
- (23) Lev ---hin (European Footballer of the Year, 1963). The omissions reversed.
- (24) -----ampton Town, English Fourth Division club.
- (26) — Hall Ground, Southend.
- (28) Take three letters from Rochdale to make a sign of the zodiac.
- (30) -dg-le- Park (Stockport). Organ of sight from the missing letters.
- (32) — Jennings, Arsenal. Reverse the missing letters.
- (33) Johan ---skens; Holland.
- (35) Juvent-- of Italy.



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Brian Clough and Peter Taylor (above) and the European Cup they led Forest to last season within two years of promotion (left).



After winning the European Cup last season it's...

BACK TO BASICS

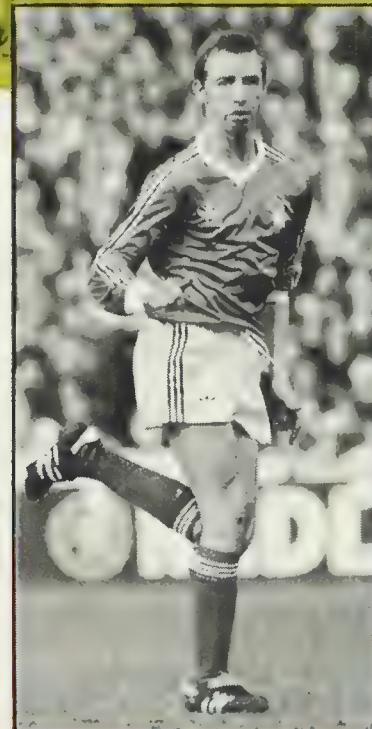
A tribute to Nottingham Forest's success in becoming the fourth British club to win the European Cup and collect other silverware in the most outstanding period in their history is that whenever they suffer rare defeat the vultures of criticism start hovering ready to pounce on the corpse.

The only consolation for Brian Clough's players is that this kind of treatment is only reserved for the very best teams who have touched near perfection and can only go one way — down.

Liverpool, the club most admired by Clough, have learned to live with the pressure from those prepared to write them off whenever they have a minor hiccup. Forest's brilliance has elevated them to the same elite category.

The gossip was gaining momentum after successive League defeats last month. A 4-1 hammering at Southampton was followed by a 1-0 defeat at home by bottom club Brighton, the first time Forest had lost at the City Ground in the League since Cardiff were triumphant in April 1977. And then a further 4-1 reverse at Derby.

"Robertson's lost some of his magic," they muttered.



John Robertson (above) and captain John McGovern (left), two players struggling to find their form this season.

"McGovern's over the hill," said others.

Brian Clough and Peter Taylor hardly paused to listen to the gentle puffs of criticism, although Clough suggested a change of management might do the trick.

They were fully aware the team was suffering a temporary loss of momentum but they had more important work to do trying to remedy the problem and persuade Tony Woodcock, Forest's gilt-edged England striker, to stay loyal to the Football League.

The Forest manager used all his persuasive powers before conceding defeat and selling the England striker to Cologne for a giveaway £650,000.

Woodcock's departure is a bitter blow to Forest, but as Clough explained: "I don't begrudge him the move. I just happen to think he is wrong to leave Forest and I don't know what he is expecting to find abroad that he cannot find here."

"I honestly don't know why he is going — but it is certainly not because he likes sauerkraut. Perhaps it is a spirit of adventure in an extremely nice young man of 24.

Woodcock, Nottingham born, took the plunge after careful con-

sultation with his international colleague Kevin Keegan, who has been such a success with West German Champions Hamburger SV.

Clough, typically, regained the initiative by announcing he would play Trevor Francis alongside Garry Birtles in a pure striking capacity, a move that pleases the £1 million England striker.

By their own lofty standards, Forest have shown signs of weakness in some departments this season. Yet one hesitates to criticise a club thrusting for the First Division title. They were beaten six times in the League before December, three more defeats than in the whole of last season.

"We have fallen behind a bit," admitted Forest's captain and midfield star John McGovern. "We have lost some of our fluency. The

team work is not quite so good.

"A side can carry one or two players operating below full effectiveness, but on occasions we have had four or five below par. John Robertson and myself have had problems in one or two games — but we're coming good again.

"Brian Clough has told us to go back to the basics, to analyse our game, and to concentrate more. We have got to start fighting for every ball. At our best, we hustle sides out of it, never allow them to settle.

"At times, this season, they've done that to us. We are now bracketed with Liverpool as the team to beat."

McGovern admitted that Forest would miss Woodcock, but he doubted whether his exit would blunt their sharpness around goal.

Pattern

"After all, we're going to fill his place with a £1 million player!"

He admitted it had taken Trevor Francis time to settle into Forest's pattern of play and his best was yet to come.

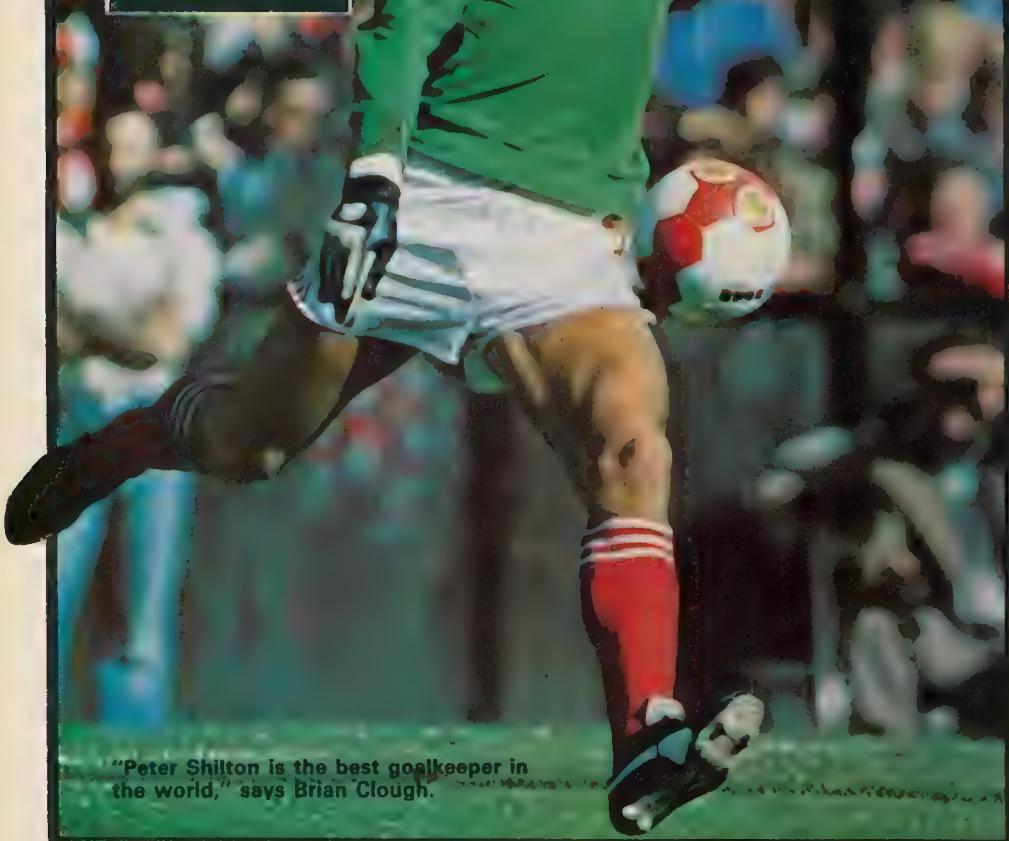
Meanwhile, the First Division Championship and League Cup remain priorities and Forest go into the hat in January for the Quarter-Finals of the European Cup confident they can reproduce the stunning brilliance which clinched the trophy last season.

If the F.A. Cup is hardly mentioned it's simply because Forest have made no impact on the competition since winning the trophy in 1959. Could it be their season in that competition?

When Brian Clough runs a club, anything is possible ...

FOREST FURIES

A pictorial tribute to the Champions of Europe and League Cup holders ...



"Peter Shilton is the best goalkeeper in the world," says Brian Clough.





John McGovern has been with Brian Clough most of his career



Forest and Scotland winger John Robertson is one of the best crossers of the ball in Europe.

SHOOT!

COLIN METHVEN, East Fife's centre-half and captain, has joined the English Fourth Division club, Wigan, for £30,000, a record for the Scottish club.

Methven joined The Fifers six years ago from Leven Royals, a junior side, and hasn't missed a game for over four years. He turned out on 190 occasions.

Aussie trialist

GREGG WOODHOUSE, 19, is coming to England from Australia this month for trials with West Bromwich Albion and Norwich. A goalkeeper, Gregg has played for the Australian national side.

Players cheating? ‘Rubbish,’ says Saints official

THE quality of British football has improved in the past four years and allegations that the Football League is populated with “divers” and “shammers” hoping to gain an advantage over referees by unfair means is unfounded.

John Mortimore, assistant-manager at Southampton, believes he is better suited than most to comment on these major football issues after spending the past four years on the Continent.

On allegations that some players are cheating referees, he says: “I’ve never heard so much rubbish in my life. We are the best in the world, along with the West Germans and the Dutch, for taking hard knocks and carrying on playing.”

On the standard of football in England, he said: “When I came back here after four years out of the British scene I was thrilled to see that our game had moved forward. We were giving the skillful player a better chance, and the game was better and more open.

“But we must never underestimate the strengths of our game, and it might surprise people to know just how much our game is admired overseas.”

Mortimore, former Chelsea and Q.P.R. star, was manager of Benfica for three years, and before that coached Greek club Ethnikos.



Villa star in M6 drama

KEN SWAIN (above), the former Chelsea forward now playing at full-back for Aston Villa, collected a new mascot recently.

He was driving towards Villa’s countryside training ground when he spotted a cat lying by the kerb on a roundabout on top of the M6 Motorway.

“I thought it was dead at first,” says Ken. “But I noticed a movement, went

round the island again, and stopped to pick it up. It was alive all right, claws flying, and I managed to capture it by covering it with a towel.”

Ken took the cat to Villa’s training HQ, and after a few stitches from a local vet, it was snoozing in manager Ron Saunders’ office. Then Ken launched the search for the cat’s owner with a story in the Villa programme.



‘DALEY’S WORTH ENGLAND PLACE’ — ROBINSON

STEVE DALEY, Manchester City’s £1.4 million buy from Wolves, is worthy of an England place on his current form.

Mike Robinson, Daley’s team mate at Maine Road, says England’s manager Ron Greenwood would be wise to check on Daley’s progress.

“If Ron Greenwood is looking for a player who has aggression and talent to go with it, he should run the rule over Daley, who would do a great job at international level.”

Commenting after the Manchester derby battle between Manches-

ter City and Manchester United in which Daley and Ray Wilkins clashed in midfield, Robinson told a newspaper: “It produced an intriguing battle in midfield, but when it came to comparison between Wilkins and Daley, there was only one winner in my book.

“Sure, Wilkins looks a class player when he’s got the ball, but Daley has far more aggression, pace and stamina and his contribution to the game is far greater.

“Maybe Wilkins will need a little more time before United get the best out of him after spending so

NEWS

Compiled by BILL DAY

DESK



Gary Collier moving?

THE splendid form of veteran Scot Jim Holton and teenager Gary Gillespie has limited the first team opportunities of Gary Collier at Coventry.

Collier, a £300,000 summer signing from Bristol City, has failed to win a regular first team spot and The Sky Blues may now be prepared to part with him and David Jones, a £250,000 signing from Everton.

Celtic ‘robbed’

BARNESLEY player-manager Allan Clarke admits he got by far the better of the deal when he paid Celtic £50,000 for Ronnie Glavin during the summer.

“I feel I robbed them,” he says, looking with pleasure at the 28-year-old former Partick Thistle star’s contribution to newly-promoted Barnsley’s climb up the Third Division table in recent weeks.

“I’ve not seen a better midfield player in the Division this winter and the great thing is Ronnie has been getting into the box and cracking in goals.

“I bracket him with my old Leeds team-mate Billy Bremner in that respect.

“I believe Scotland manager Jock Stein should check on Ronnie’s form with a view to giving him another cap to go with the one he gained in 1977 when he was at Parkhead.”

SHAMROCK Rovers have introduced a series of ‘Open Nights’ where supporters are invited to Milltown to discuss club affairs with manager Johnny Giles and other directors.

BRISTOL CITY, who watched Dundee United’s transfer-listed international defender David Narey earlier in the season, have now switched their attention to the rugged Derrick McDicken, who is playing so well for Kilmarnock. Stoke have also watched McDicken’s defensive partner Paul Clarke. Rugby Park manager Davie Sneddon is in no rush to part with either player.

BEST'S BACK

GEORGE BEST’s determination to get back to big-time football has landed him at Hibernian. Best joined the Scottish Premier Division club from Fulham for a fee of about £60,000, and Hibs fans were thrilled when he scored on his debut against St. Mirren. Nevertheless, Hibs lost 2-1 and are stranded at the foot of the table, and it remains to be seen whether Best’s magical powers, even at the age of 33, can still excite the fans.

Certainly in Scotland there are a lot who’ll turn out to see him and Hibs could benefit on and off the field with the imaginative signing.

Whether Best stays at Hibs is another matter.

much time struggling in a bad side at Chelsea."

Robinson revealed that Daley was working hard to improve his technique. "He has still to reach his true potential."

Stoke City defender Alan Dodd is also England material, according to his manager Alan Durban.

Dodd has rediscovered the form which won him Under-23 caps since taking over in the back-four from Mike Doyle.

Durban commented: "He is showing that the art of tackling has not disappeared altogether."

"Tackling is being forced out of the game by some referees, who can't distinguish between the real thing and a foul. Players are afraid to tackle because they only have to mis-time a couple to find themselves serving a suspension — but that isn't a problem for Alan Dodd.

"His timing is immaculate and he has the valuable gift of knowing instinctively when to slide in and commit himself, when to stand up and block and when to jockey.

"If Ron Greenwood is looking for a strong, young central defender for next summer's European Championship and for the next World Cup he can take it from me that Dodd is right in that class on his present form."

Back to go forward

KEVAN Broadhurst (left) has stepped down two Divisions in an attempt to make the grade.

Kevan has joined Walsall from Birmingham City on loan and he is hoping that after completing his stint with the Fourth Division title chasers he will be back to his best form and challenging for a first team spot with the St Andrews club.

It is, however, on the cards that if he impresses Walsall's player-manager, Alan Buckley, the Fellows Park outfit could make a bid for Broadhurst's services.

MANCHESTER United are making a surprise and unlikely contribution to the success of a play currently running in Brussels.

It depicts a group of Manchester United supporters attending the F.A. Cup Final between United and Southampton, at Wembley in 1976. Old Trafford's souvenir shop has co-operated by sending badges, scarves and other souvenirs for the production.

The BKT Theatre also has an exhibition of Cup Final photographs in the foyer advertising the play.

'I know how to score goals' — MacDougall

After four frustrating months of waiting, Ted MacDougall finally scored his 25th League goal, making him the 15th player to reach his tally.

The goal came in Bournemouth's 4-0 win over Rochdale last month. Ted needed just two goals this season to join the 250 Club, but an injury collected playing for Detroit Express restricted his early games for The Cherries.

He says: "It was frustrating having to sit it out with the total so near. The goal was a left foot volley.

"I've never claimed to be a great footballer but I do know how to score goals."

Ted has averaged a goal every other

game. Here are the details:

YORK CITY ... 84 League games, 34 goals (1967-68).

BOURNEMOUTH ... 146 League games, 103 goals (1969-1972).

MANCHESTER UNITED ... 18 League games, 5 goals (1972-73).

WEST HAM ... 24 League games, 5 goals (1973).

NORWICH CITY ... 112 League games, 51 goals (1973-1976).

SOUTHAMPTON ... 86 League games, 42 goals (1976-78).

BOURNEMOUTH ... 36 League games, 10 goals (1978-1979).

Forgotten Gidman

THE England right-back berth seems to be a straight battle between Phil Neal (Liverpool) and Viv Anderson (Forest). But there is a third contender who most people appear to have forgotten ... John Gidman, who joined Everton for £650,000 recently.

Gidman is 25 now with around 200 League games for Aston Villa and Everton behind him. He has just one England cap, which he won in 1977 against Luxembourg.

He says: "My game has not advanced as I would have liked. This is why I wanted to leave Villa. I'm sure I'll learn more about football with Everton. I want to progress and win more England caps."

"I had nine good years at Villa Park, but I was becoming part of the furniture. Ron Saunders said the reason I wanted to leave was money. That's ridiculous and he knows it."

"I was due a testimonial next year when I'd have picked up around £40,000 tax free. I've given up a lot to come to Everton. It was ambition, not money that made me leave Villa."

At his peak, Gidman is one of the best full-backs in the country. If he can find the form of a couple of years ago, he could be in the running for a place in Ron Greenwood's European Championship squad.

RAITH Rovers have signed Ian Ballantyne, former Queen's Park striker, for £12,500. Manager Gordon Wallace, who signed Ballantyne from Dundee United, says: "I think Ian's capable of scoring 20 goals a season."

JACKIE McNamara, the ex-Celt, has been named Player of the Year for the second season in succession by the Hibs Supporters Association.

THE first manager to get the sack in Eire this season was Willie Roche. Roche, brother of Manchester United's reserve keeper Paddy, was relieved of his duties at Drogheda United. The County Louth club are now hoping for a full-time manager who will live in the town.

ARSENAL'S Paul Vaessen is a chip off the old block. His father played for Millwall, Gillingham and Dover.

PAT Stanton, Aberdeen's assistant-manager, made £26,000 tax free at his testimonial earlier this year.

AMERICA bound 'Worthy'

FORMER England striker Frank Worthington treasures a long term objective to return to the United States.

Birmingham fans can expect to see the former Bolton player in their line-up for at least two seasons but then he could decide to cross the Atlantic for good.

"My eventual aim is to go back to America," he says.

Meanwhile, he hopes to get back on the goalscoring trail with Birmingham.

"What I would really like is to get a run of success. Apart from Bolton's promotion year, I can recall only one season in my time at Leicester when we had a good run."

Worthington scored 149 goals for Huddersfield, Leicester and Bolton, averaging a goal every three games.

He could well return to Philadelphia Fury. It was common knowledge that he did not get on with Fury's Yugoslav coach, but he has now moved to another NASL club.



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Why Steve Daley believes he is worth the small fortune Manchester City paid for him.

How Asa Hartford plans to make Forest regret rejecting him.

Colin Addison's battle to put Derby County back at the top.

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ONE of the most enjoyable things about being a SHOOT columnist is the chance to answer readers' letters on different topics. Here goes with a selection from my post-bag...

"Who is the most promising young player to appear against Liverpool this season?" asks John Redman of Slough, Bucks.

The first name to spring to mind was that of Glenn Hoddle of Spurs, a potential England regular at full level who has now allied work-rate to his many skills.

But I assume you want me to go for a newcomer, someone who has recently made his mark, and consequently I've picked Tommy Caton of Manchester City.

Even though we convincingly beat his team 4-0 at Maine Road in the League on October 27, Tommy stood out with his cool, commanding play in the centre of the City defence.

Tommy is unfortunate in being in a side freshly assembled this season by chief coach Malcolm Allison, and with the emphasis on youth. Its inexperience was no match for a Liverpool team at full power.

What particularly impressed me about him was his quickness on the turn, his distribution of the ball, and his strong heading. A worthy successor to Dave Watson, now with Southampton via Werder Bremen, and with the ability to eventually follow him into the England team.

'Tommy Caton, commanding in defence'

At the moment the country is suffering from a dearth of outstanding central defenders, so young Tommy's prospects are very rosy.

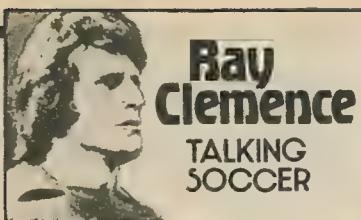
"You announced in a previous column that now you have signed a three-year contract with Liverpool you've changed your mind about not going into management when your playing days are done. Would you prefer to take over a First Division club or one from the lower Divisions?" That question is posed by Tommy Bowles of New Brighton, over in Cheshire.

Definitely one from the Second or below, Tommy. I've always maintained I'm a better player for having begun my career with Scunthorpe United, where things were much harder, and I believe I'd obtain a better grounding in management by starting in the same way.

The only demand I'd make on the directors would be for money to be available to buy players if necessary. That's an essential. And I'd need to be convinced that the area had the potential to attract good support. There would be nothing more soul-destroying than building a winning team and not pulling in the crowds.

I'd like to emulate the success my former Liverpool team-mate, John Toshack, has had with Swansea, lifting them from the Fourth Division to the Second in successive seasons.

It was a wise move of his to take with him players coming to the ends of their careers at Anfield — such as Tommy Smith and Ian Callaghan —



'My most promising young'



Tommy Caton tackles Steve Coppell (right). Soon they could be playing together for England.

and also recruit other former team-mates, such as Alan Waddle from Leicester City and Phil Boersma from Luton. He knew they wouldn't let him down.

It's a policy I may follow, though only in the short term, for the emphasis must always be on seeking out young talent to develop.

"Is it true that although you are left-footed, you are right-handed?" asks Jane Brightwell of Bournemouth, Dorset. "And if so, was it once a handicap?"

Yes, it's true, Jane, but the rare combination has never been a problem to me.

When Liverpool's former man-



'I'm left-footed — and right-handed'

ager, Bill Shankly signed me, he did say he would never have bought me if I'd been left-handed. He believes that such a combination signifies a weakness for dealing with certain balls.

On one particular occasion, when Liverpool were playing Dynamo Dresden in a European tie, my peculiarity actually turned out to be an asset.

Their centre-forward, a German international named Peter Kotte, took a penalty-kick against us, and was amazed when I saved it.

He confessed afterwards he'd reasoned that as I kicked with my left foot, I was left-handed, and so put the ball to my right where I'm strongest.

That save of mine turned out to be an important one.

"You said in a previous column that Liverpool would arrange friendlies against foreign sides to make up for being knocked out of the European Cup. But there was no report in the newspapers of Liverpool being involved in such a game while Second Round matches were staged," writes Martin Wright of Glasgow.

If you'd read the French papers, I'm sure you'd have found one, Martin. For we played Lille, fourth in the French First Division, and lost 3-1.

But there was no significance in the result of this game, played a few days after our 3-0 League win over Wolves at Anfield. The French side played in deadly earnest, keen to take the scalp of England's Champions, whereas we treated the game more as a work-out.

The important thing for us was to avoid injuries on a foul night with rain blanketing the very attractive stadium.

The weather was so bad only

three or four thousand spectators turned up.

The French team was unimpressive, and only their Argentinian centre-forward, scorer of two goals, stood out.

Apart from the rain, the trip was most enjoyable, and set us up for our 4-1 away victory against Brighton on the following Saturday.

I've had many letters asking for confirmation of my testimonial match against Anderlecht, the crack Belgian club, at Anfield on Tuesday, 29th of April.

It is now definitely on, and I'm in the process of getting acceptances from my Liverpool Select side.

All being well, Kevin Keegan

'Villa have given us problems in recent seasons'



An own-goal by Frank Carrozza, but Villa still won 2-1 at Anfield.

new faces, replacements for Andy Gray, and the three John's: Gidman, Deehan and Gregory.

I particularly admire their manager, Ron Saunders, for his courage and fortitude in the face of massive, unfair criticism, and I'm pleased he's now over the crisis.

I'm sure we're in for one of our hardest games of the season.

On the following Tuesday, we'll be looking forward to meeting Wolves at Molineux, in a fixture which had to be carried over from the opening day of the season because their ground wasn't ready.

Liverpool are geared to play two competitive games a week. Training is no substitute.

It'll be interesting to see whether

player of the season...

should make an appearance on my big night, and the combination of Kevin and Kenny Dalglish will certainly create a lot of interest. I'm thrilled at the prospect of seeing the two men regarded as the best strikers in Europe playing alongside each other in the same team — and a Liverpool one at that!

Kevin's finishing is now on a par with Kenny's, since his move two years ago to West

Germany and I've a hunch he's going to be elected European Footballer of the Year for the second successive season.

The lad from Doncaster has certainly come a long way — and good luck to him.

"It's my dream to actually visit Anfield for a match, but living in Newquay, Cornwall, makes it impossible at present," writes Stan Marsden. "Can you tell me if any more improvements are to be made to the stadium?"

The club are still waiting for permission to extend the Kemlyn Road stand, opposite the Kop, Stan, and indications are that it will be granted.

They also plan to convert the standing area, called The Paddock, where the players run out, into all-seating accommodation.

This Saturday, December 8th, we play Aston Villa away in a League game.

Villa are a team who have given us problems during recent seasons, but we'll be lining up against a lot of

my former team-mate Emlyn Hughes is back in the Wolves team. Obviously he'd like revenge for the 3-0 defeat we inflicted on them previously at Anfield.

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'WHEN GEORGE BEST LAUGHED IN MY FACE'

-GERD MÜLLER

GERD Müller, that human goalscoring machine, was 34 recently, but his record in 1979 was as good as ever. After scoring 365 goals in the Bundesliga, Der Bomber packed his bags and left for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers. Even though he missed the opening games of the North American Soccer League, Müller still finished third highest scorer, with 19 goals, an average of a goal-a-game. His comments to the German Press about life in Florida are interesting . . .

How did your first season in the U.S.A. go?

A total success. I played five games less than the others, but I very nearly topped the goal-chart. I was voted the Strikers' Most Valuable Player and the attendances rose to 218,000 from 143,000 the previous season.

Do they really play as badly in America as many people imagine?

The standard of football in Europe is definitely much higher, but you must remember the rules are slightly different in the States and away games often mean long journeys and time-differences. After a long flight, we may have to play in extreme temperatures (warm or cold). Playing at 2 o'clock in sweltering heat isn't easy.

Are you still afraid of flying?

Yes, that hasn't changed. I still break into a sweat before each flight.

What are the fans like? Apparently, they don't have much knowledge of the game.

The supporters are marvellous. A crowd of 10,000 in Fort Lauderdale makes more noise than 30,000 in Germany. I think the Strikers' fans are the most enthusiastic in the whole League. I like the way they arrive two hours before kick-off for a family picnic. Was George Best actually sacked by the club?

Yes, they threw him out.

Why?

Firstly, he was totally against me, just as he was against Teófilo Cubillas, the Peruvian star. Then suddenly before a game in Los Angeles, Best disappeared. He turned up shortly before the kick-off, but refused to sit on the substitutes' bench. He then went missing for eight days! We learned later that he spent this period in a drunken stupor in his bungalow. After this, the club sacked him. Couldn't world star Müller have had a man-to-man chat with ex-world star Best?

Impossible. When I tried to talk to him, he laughed in my face and then carried on as normal behind my back.



MUELLER

As the highest paid player in the team, were you accepted by your team-mates, who earned less?

Yes. In the play-offs at the end of the season I was even chosen as captain.

You say you get on well. How do you communicate? In English?

Well, my English isn't too good, but I was lucky because Mario (a young amateur from Kickers Stuttgart) joined us. He speaks fluent English and acted as my translator at team talks.

What is your Florida home like?

Fine, I love my bungalow and I sleep a lot, because it is so hot, up to three hours in the afternoon if we're not travelling. My wife and daughter love it out there. Nicole, my little girl, even cried when we came back to Germany!

As a 'new American', what do you think of the typical American way of life . . . Coca Cola, hamburgers and all that?

For a start I don't like Coke or hamburgers! My wife does the cooking, just as she did in Munich. There are no problems.

Do you feel like an old age pensioner playing in a U.S. Old Age Pensioner's League?

Rubbish! You have to earn your money and I'm certainly not paid just because my name's Gerd Müller.

Did you want to prove something after your row with Bayern Munich coach Pal Csernai?

Yes. I've proved all I need to, to Csernai and myself. I know I could play in the Bundesliga at any time. I've never felt fitter.

What do you think of the new Bayern team?

I'd say they are title favourites and the main threat will come from Kevin Keegan's Hamburger SV. I still think Bayern will win the League, though. Bayern have Paul Breitner and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, two excellent players. The midfield is strong and the defence solid, while the overall squad is top-class.

THE UNKNOWN SCOT

Undoubtedly the most successful Briton playing on the Continent is Kevin Keegan with Hamburger SV. Yet a virtually unknown Scottish Youth international, James Bett (19), is receiving rave notices for his performances with SC Lokeren in Belgium.

Bett has been in Belgium for a year and it's been something of a fairytale for the Scot.

"My first Scottish League club were Airdrie," he said. "That was a terrible mistake. We trained only twice a week and then it was all running."

"When I was 16, I played for the Scottish Youth team alongside Ray Stewart, transferred from Dundee United to West Ham."

It was about that time that Bett met Kristjan Bernburg, now his personal adviser.

"I didn't see any future in Scotland," continued Bett, "So I followed Mr Bernburg's advice and went to Iceland. I played one and a half games for Valur before the SC Lokeren manager, Mr De Rijcker, spotted me."

Last season Bett was in Lokeren's reserves most of the time, improving consistently. His first team debut came earlier this season against Anderlecht.

"I had to mark Frank Vercauteren, the Belgian international midfielder. He didn't see much of the ball. He even warned me by saying he would kick me into hospital if I continued marking him so closely. I didn't end up in hospital, but we won 2-1."



"I've settled in quite well. The language was the biggest problem at first, but most of the other lads spoke English, which helped."

Bett (seen here shooting against Anderlecht) has helped Lokeren to the top of the Belgian League and the former Polish international striker, Wlodek Lubanski, said of his Scottish team-mate: "He's one of the most promising youngsters I've seen."

Bett said: "It's great to be playing in the same side as Lubanski. I'm learning a lot from him. My aim is to stay here for three or four years and then prove myself in England or Scotland."

Fans flock to see Cosmos

THE Cosmos attracted almost 500,000 fans during their 13-game tour of the Far East and Australia, with 85,000 seeing them beat the Indonesian national team in Djakarta. If that wasn't enough, 55,000 soccer-loving Indonesians turned up two days later to see a Select XI draw 1-1 with the American club.

The tour started in Hong Kong, and apart from Indonesia, took in South Korea, Singapore, Japan, Malaysia and Australia.

The average of 36,846 for each match is proof that supporters everywhere will flock to see the superstars of Cosmos, whatever the cynics may say.

WHAT KEVIN DIDN'T SAY ON T.V.

MY belated congratulations to Brian Moore and the London Weekend Television team for one of the best sporting documentaries ever seen on television — Brian Moore Meets Kevin Keegan. Brian admitted to me it was a labour of love for him; despite being involved with superstars all the time, he still feels for the game and, like me, places Keegan very high on his list of favourites.

The big question is: where will Keegan go after his contract with Hamburger SV has ended . . . if, indeed, anywhere?

The show lasted almost an hour, but around 20 hours of film were shot for the documentary. In one scene, which wasn't shown, Kevin said: "If you ask me now where I'll be next year, I'd say Spain."

He also revealed Barcelona have made him a definite offer, and my story in 17th November issue, where Keegan is swooped for Allan Simonsen, may yet come true.

Real Madrid are also interested in pairing K.K. with Laurie Cunningham.



WHO'S TOP IN BELGIUM



WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

IN the Rio de Janeiro Championship, C.R. Flamengo have confirmed their early promise and won the trophy, thus winning three major titles in the space of 15 months. In that period Flamengo played 73 matches, winning 57 and drawing 11; they scored 195 goals (average 2.6 per game) and against 50 (average 0.6). Following the final game, pre-carnival festivities were the order of the day and at the Flamengo Stadium over 30,000 litres of beer were distributed free to supporters.

FOOTBALL ALL THE WAY

CAN you have too much of a good thing? Our correspondent in Belgium, Danny Geerts, tells me he saw almost 12½ hours of football in one day last month when the European competitions were played.

Living in Antwerp, he can tune in to French, Dutch and German T.V. as well, and this was his schedule: 12.30pm, French T.V. — Steaua Bucharest v FC Nantes (live); 4.00pm, German T.V. Dinamo Tbilisi v Hamburger SV (live); 8.00pm, Dutch T.V., Saint-Etienne v PSV (live), switching over to Inter Milan against Borussia Mönchengladbach, which was shown live on Belgian T.V. starting 8.30pm; 10.30pm, German T.V., recorded highlights of VfB Stuttgart v Dynamo Dresden, Bayern Munich v Aarhus GF, Eintracht Frankfurt v Dinamo Bucharest and 1.KF Kaiserslautern v Sporting Lisbon.

That ended 1.00am Thursday morning Belgian time!

THERE'S a strange law-suit going on in Argentina, where a certain Jose Amador is suing a manufacturer of posters, stickers and other paper goods for infringing a copyright. The company have begun to market packets of special "confetti" for fans to throw on to the pitch at football matches, just as they did during the 1978 World Cup. But Amador claims to have invented and patented the idea, and is demanding royalties on every packet of "rubbish" thrown on to the pitch . . .

EURO RECORD FOR "LES VERTS"?

FRENCH clubs have been making a good showing in Europe this season, and among their many creditable results there's one match that's already gone down in French footballing history — Saint-Etienne's 6-0 defeat of star-studded Dutch side PSV Eindhoven.

"Les Verts" trailed 0-2 after the first-leg, but they must have set up a European record by cancelling out the deficit and taking an aggregate lead in just . . . wait for it! . . . five minutes!

St-Etienne, without right-winger Dominique Rocheteau, and with midfield ace Michel Platini not fully fit after injury, opened their account in the second minute through

WHILE FIFA insists that referees should continue to be part-timers who officiate as a hobby, the Colombian authorities have ignored their directions and announced that their referees will be full-time professionals as from next season.

What's more, murmurs about bribery have reached such proportions that the authorities have decided that all the First Division referees will have to live in the capital, Bogotá, and every Friday they'll report to a secret assembly point with no telephone and stay there until they have to leave for the stadium.

The name of the referee won't be previously announced to the Press and will be kept top secret until he actually arrives at the ground.

Marinho to return?

LEFT-BACK Francisco Marinho, who now plays for Cosmos, is in holiday and he made it known that he would like to play again for his old team, Botafogo.

He says that, to begin with, he could play for Botafogo while the American soccer season is closed. After that, he hopes to induce Botafogo to make a bid to Cosmos for his transfer, especially as he cost very little money to the American club.

"My former club, Fluminense, sold me to Cosmos for only £150,000, which is negligible when compared to what Cosmos paid for Beckenbauer and Neeskens."

The motives behind Marinho's reasons to return are manyfold. He thinks that, because he cost so little, he is not given, by the Cosmos, the recognition that his technique deserves. He has very little command of the English language. He dislikes playing on AstroTurf. And, most of all, he would like to play again for Brazil.

"Manager Claudio Coutinho called Falcao back to the team, after ostracising him for the World Cup. I think he could call me again and I still think I am the best left back in the country," he concluded.



Larios.

Then Platini and Santini added two more in three minutes. Platini, Roussey and Rep added three more in the second-half to produce a sensational scoreline against a team that includes famous Dutch internationals such as Van Beeren, Wildschut, Stevens, Brandts, Poortvliet, Van der Kuylen and the Van Der Kerkhof twins!

Incidentally, the president and directors of Atlético Madrid were in the stand with cheque book open to sign Rene Van Der Kerkhof for £475,000. But after watching the French team take PSV apart, the Spaniards rapidly lost interest!

News flashes

The West German authorities have decided that T.V. film may be used "only in exceptional circumstances" by players at disciplinary hearings.

Remember Sigi Held, the West German winger who played against England in the 1966 World Cup Final? He's 37 now, but still going strong. Bayer Uerdingen have just paid £60,000 for Sigil, who has played over 350 Bundesliga games.

The French police undertook breathalyser tests on 411 fans as they left the Laval-Bordeaux match to drive home. Only one of the tests was positive.

Ten of the 16 teams in the Algerian League failed to score on the fourth day of the League programme.

Real Madrid qualified for the last eight of the European Cup thanks to a sensational header from veteran central defender Benito in the second-leg of their tie against F.C. Porto. It was only the second goal of 33-year-old Benito's career.

Meanwhile, Barcelona's comfortable trot into the Quarter-Finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup has been a profitable

"training session" for the squad. They received £1,000 a man for beating Akranes of Iceland in the First Round, and gleefully added another £1,750 a head for putting 11 goals past Aris Bonnivole of Luxembourg in the following round.

Another idea for goalkeepers — Ronnie Hellström (Kaiserslautern and Sweden) is convinced that his very brightly coloured yellow shirt attracts forwards to shoot directly at him. This is, he says, a natural reaction because the bright shirt catches their eyes.

An Italian fan has come up with a new invention which he feels will lead to an improvement in the game of football. It's . . . wait for it . . . a cubic ball. "The bounce is so weird," the inventor claims, "that it sharpens up your reflexes . . ."

The Paraguayan national team received a record bonus of £2,500 for beating Brazil in the Semi-Finals of the South American Championship.

San Lorenzo midfieler Osvaldo Rinaldi has asked the Argentine F.A. for special permission to play with his socks down! Argentinian regulations prohibit this quite clearly, and a player can be shown the yellow or red card for letting his socks slip to his ankles. Rinaldi is now claiming that he doesn't feel comfortable wearing long socks or shin-pads and that the regulations are having a harmful effect on his career!

Only two Bulgarian journalists made the trip to Monaco to watch Lokomotiv Sofia beat the French League leaders 5-3 on aggregate in a bad-tempered game with two men sent-off. Other journalists had no alternative but to stay at home, as the authorities in Sofia hadn't issued them the necessary exit visas.

Chile is a happy hunting ground for Brazilian strikers. Liminha heads the First Division charts despite a run of injuries. And his compatriot Batista heads the Second Division scoresheet by averaging a goal a game for promotion-hunting Independiente.

Heriberto Herrera, the 'Iron Sergeant' manager of Spanish club Elche, was rushed to hospital shortly before the team's away match in Cadiz suffering from a cerebral haemorrhage. At the time of writing he seems to be on the road to recovery, and we hope he soon returns to the best of health.

Spain's lower Divisions aren't exactly sensational news, but even local fans looked with despair at the results of the 11th fixture in Second Division B. In ten matches only nine goals were scored; no team scored more than one goal; the highest aggregate was a 1-1 draw; and 11 teams failed to score at all. What do they think this is — Italy?

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"Every time his team loses . . ."



"Let's comfort ourselves with the thought dear — that your late husband has been promoted to the First Division"



"That's for last time"



"Don't tell me the club is going to buy a new player!"



"Fantastic — that heavy shoulder charge their iron man gave you shifted your belly button!"

"How was I to know he could lip read?"



5

GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Jaw. (5) Din. (8) Trainer (10) Or. (12) Manor. (13) Of. (15) Kevin. (16) St. (17) Eastoe. (19) Ends. (22) Lie. (23) Sweden. (25) Dart. (27) Pole. (29) Yes. (31) Preston. (34) You. (36) To. (37) Ate. (38) Dens. (39) Apse.

DOWN:— (2) At. (3) Wry. (4) Time. (5) Denial. (6) Ironsides. (7) Protest. (9) Nave. (11) Go. (14) Flew. (15) Kidd. (16) So. (18) Tea. (20) Nelson. (21) Sepp. (23) Say. (24) North. (26) Roots. (28) Leo. (30) Eye. (32) Tap. (33) Nee. (35) Us.

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A SOCCER fan of a rival team would be forgiven for thinking Shielfield Park, home of Berwick Rangers, was more like an abandoned aircraft hangar than a football stadium.

The record books show the biggest attendance at the ground was a mere 13,365 when they played — and sensational beat — Rangers in the Scottish Cup on that historic day of January 28, 1967. Even with that meagre amount inside the ground an onlooker commented at the time: "It was like being in an overcrowded sardine tin."

Berwick Rangers have an anonymous background. Actually they shouldn't really be in the Scottish League. They are, after all, situated in England!

But Berwick, founded in 1881 and seven years older than Celtic, soldier on with marked determination. For far too long Berwick has been a ghost town on matchday.

A few years ago a visiting fan arrived in Berwick for the first time and asked the way to Shielfield Park. One local couldn't tell him and another told him how to get to St James' Park . . . home of Newcastle United!

of the teams who are in it this season. Hearts, Airdrie and Ayr are all very capable sides."

Backing up Smith's words are Morton, in only their second season out of the First Division.

Last season they consolidated their place in the Top Ten among the big boys and now they are really gaining some praiseworthy results. In the space of eight days they took a point off Rangers and beat Celtic. They followed that up with a 4-1 win over Partick Thistle at Firhill, where Celtic, Rangers, Aberdeen and Hibs all failed to win earlier in the season.

Motherwell, too, will subscribe to Davie Smith's words. They were expected to bounce straight back into the Premier Division after last season's disastrous sequence of humiliating results, but they have found the going extremely tough.

After 18 First Division games the Fir Park side had only 14 points and were sitting third from bottom.

Smith is plotting and planning with meticulous care and attention and says: "Playing for Glasgow Rangers and for Berwick Rangers is worlds apart.

Scotland's English club

In this unlikely setting there is a minor revival going on. It's unheralded outside Berwick, but progress is definitely being made by the club as they try to break clear of the heavy cobwebs that have been allowed to form after so many years in the wilderness.

Under the superb management of Davie Smith — a man who asks for little recognition as he takes on a mammoth task — they won the Second Division title last season and in 1979-80 they have had some very creditable results in the First.

Smith, used to the glamour of big clubs such as Rangers and Aberdeen, is not asking his team to grow up too fast. He wants to make sure they can walk before he asks them to run.

"We must pace ourselves," he says: "but we are going in the right direction. This is a tough Division, make no mistake about that.

"Look how long it took Dundee to get out and take a look at some

"Everything at Ibrox Stadium was big time, marble halls and all that. It's completely different at Shielfield, of course. Everything is done on a shoestring basis here. I can't go mad in the transfer market, that's for sure!"

Berwick Rangers are gaining respectability again. Davie Smith must step forward and take a well deserved bow. This season they will probably settle for a middle of the table position.

However, next season things will probably be geared for a more ambitious assault along the promotion path.

The ailing body of Berwick was all but pronounced dead before the kiss of life was given. They have taken new energy and direction in recent years.

It's good to see. Possibly one day the 'aircraft hangar' will be converted into a ground that will do the club proud. Then they will be really flying high.



The Berwick team group for the 1979-80 season.

AIRDRIE, hardly the wealthiest club in Britain, proved they were deadly serious about their bid to get into the Premier Division when they heard that Hibs were interested in captain and top scorer Sandy Clarke.

The Easter Road side followed up their initial move with a £150,000 bid for a virtual unknown who had never even kicked a ball in the Top Ten.

However, there was a pleasant surprise awaiting the Broomfield faithful when the Airdrie board decided to reject the offer.

"I was delighted when I heard the news," says manager Bobby Watson. "I didn't want to lose the player, but realised £150,000 was a lot of money."

"It shows everyone that we are building a team here and looking to the future. We want players such as Sandy Clarke to make it big in the game, but we want them to make it big with us."

Airdrie's revival has shocked everyone. Things were quiet on the Broomfield front for the past three or four years and it looked as though they were another club going into hibernation. They had a brief flurry with glory when they reached the Cup Final against Celtic six years ago.

They were given little chance, but they took a lot of credit from the game which they eventually lost 3-1 after giving Celtic one or two scares.

It seemed that that particular close encounter with the soccer big time would be enough to keep the Airdrie fans happy for quite a while. **WRONG!**

Everyone seemed to reckon without the ambitious qualities of former Rangers and Motherwell player Watson. As a footballer he wasn't blessed with astonishing

skills, but he was a dedicated professional and a 100 per cent operator.

He took those same ideals into the Airdrie hot seat when the club appointed him manager and now he has shaped a side geared for success. It has been a long, slow, sometimes thankless task, but Watson has stuck with the job and now there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Watson even took a leaf out of Brian Clough's book recently and took his family off for a holiday in Spain during the playing season.

"We had just lost to Arbroath at Gayfield before I was due to fly out on the Monday," says Watson. "The board were all for it . . . do you think they were trying to tell me something?"

Abundance

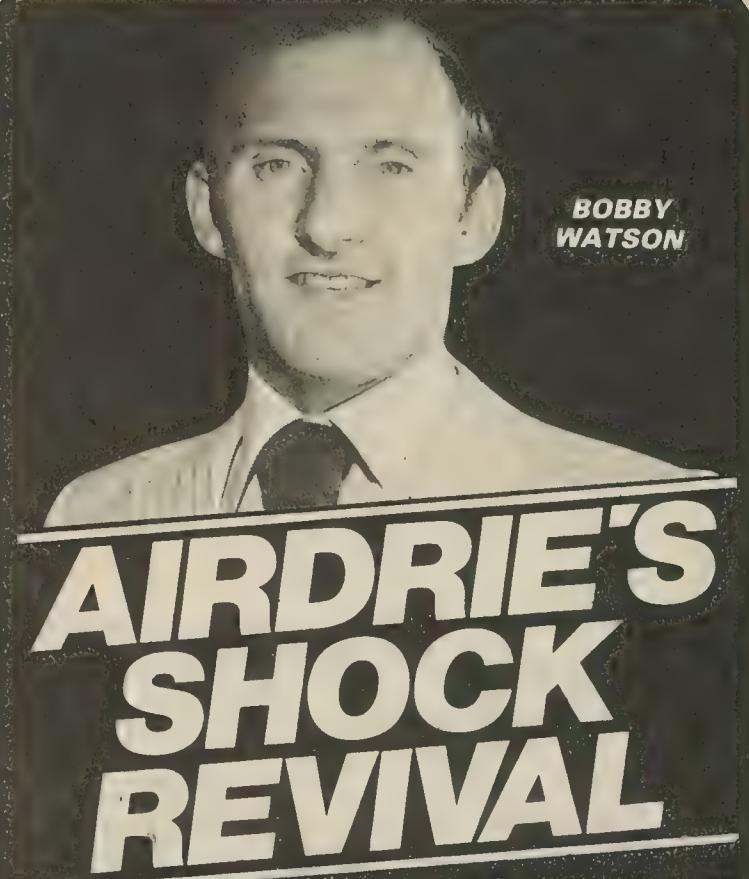
That sense of humour is a valuable commodity for any manager and Watson, already a successful businessman outside football, has that in abundance.

He was being interviewed on the television one day after a match and he said, straight-faced: "Yes, sure there are plenty of problems being a manager, but it is worth it all when I pick up my £50,000 at the end of the year!"

The interviewer almost collapsed there and then. Watson, playing the role superbly, said in mock horror: "Oops, I shouldn't have said that. Now everyone will be wanting the manager's job with Airdrie!"

Watson the joker becomes Watson the serious when asked about playing in the Premier Division.

"It's a nice thought," he says, "but we won't be looking too far ahead. We'll see what we achieve at the end of the day. There will be no complacency from anyone at Broomfield."



AIRDRIE'S SHOCK REVIVAL

My family beats football

THERE are fewer men in Britain with a greater love of football than me. I was still in short trousers when I wrote a school essay entitled: "I want to be a professional footballer."

Preparation for a match; the buzz of excitement on the Saturday; moments of elation during the game; and a good old chin-wag about what went right and wrong afterwards makes my job one of the best in the world.

The whole heady atmosphere of managing a First Division club gives me a sense of enjoyment and fulfilment that would be difficult to find in many other occupations.

In short, I love every minute of it. So it might surprise you to know that once I step through the front door of my family home at Loughton, Essex, on a Saturday night, I try to forget all about football.

Collapse

I don't even watch Match of the Day on television. I video record it and watch it the next day!

The moment I collapse on the sofa in the lounge is the moment I revert to a routine even more enjoyable than football. That's when I assume the role of Family Man.

Home life is important to me. All the worries disappear when I give my wife, Christine, a kiss and start larking about with my two daughters, Nancy and Tracey.

There are things more important in life than football. If you are not careful, the pressures of football can get to you. And that spells disaster.

I always remember the story about Chelsea's former manager Ted Drake. He was driving full-back Peter Sillett home and expressing his worries. The car halted at traffic lights — for four minutes. An exasperated policeman came over and said: "What's happening, the lights have changed six times?" Ted turned to Peter and said:

"My God, Peter, I thought you were driving." I told that story to the Palace side a week or two back, explaining how worry can get to a manager.

"Who are you trying to kid?" said Kenny Sansom. "The same thing happened when you drove me home the other day."

So home life is important to me — and it's important to all players. I know of several footballers whose careers have been disrupted because they did not have stable home lives.

Makes you wonder how much greater George Best might have been if he had married early and gone back in the evenings to a home produced stew.

I was lucky. I married Christine at the age of 23. I first met my wife 21 years ago at the wedding of family friends in Dagenham, Essex.

Allan Harris, my assistant at Palace, was best man. He is also godfather to Tracey, our youngest daughter.

Christine has come to terms with being a football widow, but we make up for it in other ways. Football has often intervened at Christmas. Whilst other fathers are romping around the Christmas tree with their children, I have sometimes been tied-up on a football assignment. Palace will be down at Brighton on Boxing Day.

Fortunately, Christine understands because football has always been a part of our lives.

I must confess that my wife and girls are not too enamoured with football. Tracey shows a bit of interest. She asked for boots and shin pads on her tenth birthday! But Christine is not a regular at Palace's home games. She rarely watches and I don't thrust football down their throats when I'm home.

The neighbourhood you live in is important to a good home life. I've lived on the East side of London all my life and have no plans to move. If you like a place there's no point in leaving it. I can never understand people who retire to



Match day at the Palace,
but it's not the be all and
end all for Terry.

the sea where they know no one.

When I took over as Palace's manager three years ago, I decided to give myself until 40 and then reassess my career. It worries me that managers can slip a little after the milestone in life. I don't want that to happen to me.

I'm fascinated with business. I also like writing. It's given me great pleasure to collaborate with Gordon Williams, author of *Straw Dogs*, the film, in writing the *Hazell* television series. I also have an interest in two pubs.

All I want to do is to be able to choose what I want to do, when I want to do it, and have the freedom to carry it out.

But at the moment I'm fully

committed to the cause of winning the First Division title with Crystal Palace.

I knew we'd do well in the First Division but even I have been surprised by the way some of our players are performing. You'd think they'd grown-up in the top Division.

What's even more comforting is that they will get better.

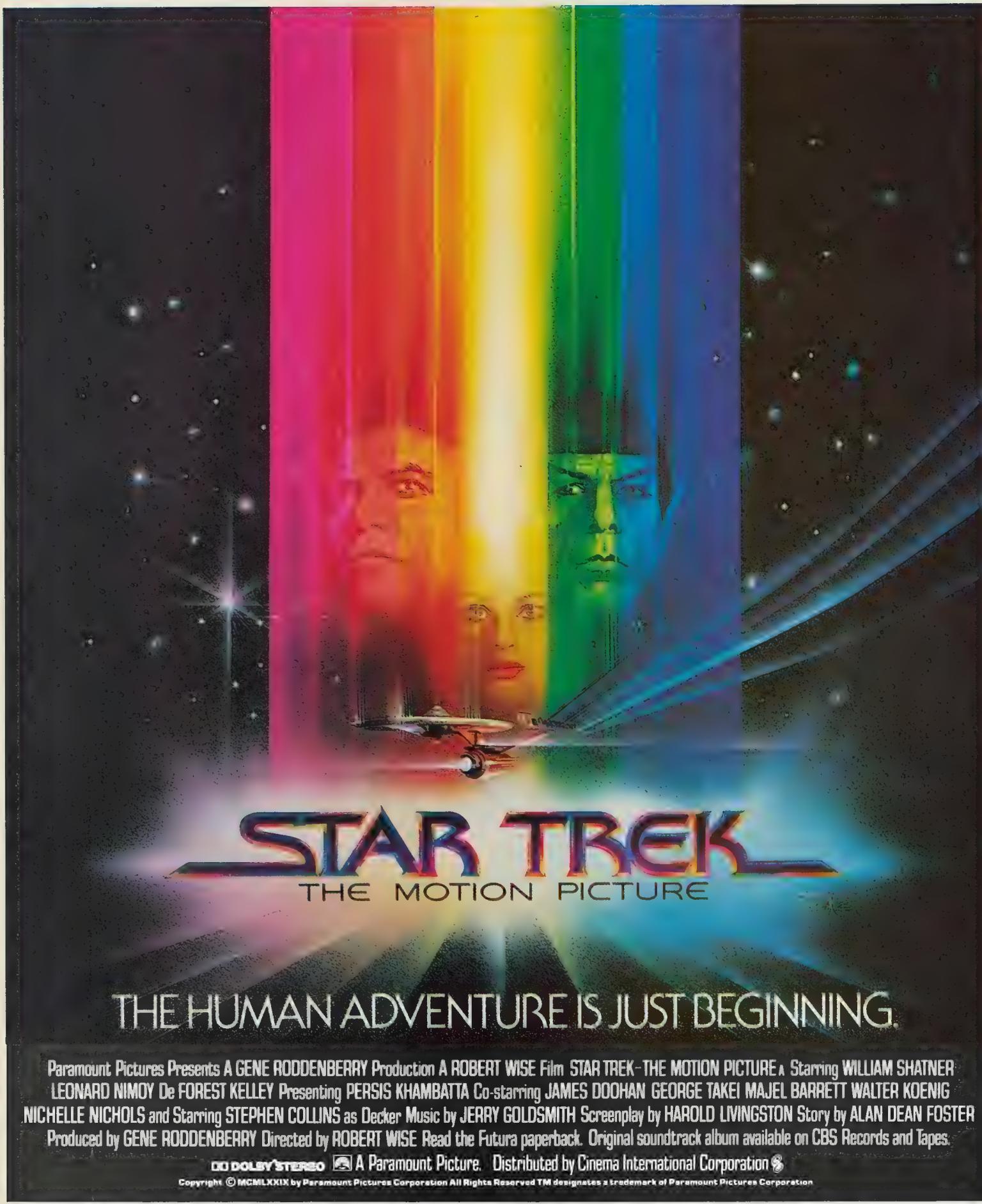
Terry Venner



Party time with Terry

THE Crystal Palace manager knows all about the pressures of soccer at the top... but after a joint birthday party for his two daughters at their Loughton, Essex, home recently, Terry was happy to get back to the "quietness" of Selhurst Park! Terry and his wife, Christine, gave a joint party for Tracey (10) and Nancy (12) as their birthdays are within three weeks of each other. Around 40 guests were at the disco-party and a good time was had by all. Terry, who has done a bit of singing in his time, kept the kids entertained with his quick-fire humour, but didn't take up the mike on this occasion. The way Crystal Palace are playing this season, it's a good bet that Venners will be doing more celebrating next May.





Paramount Pictures Presents A GENE RODDENBERRY Production A ROBERT WISE Film STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE Starring WILLIAM SHATNER LEONARD NIMOY De FOREST KELLEY Presenting PERSIS KHAMBATTA Co-starring JAMES DOOHAN GEORGE TAKEI MAJEL BARRETT WALTER KOENIG NICHELLE NICHOLS and Starring STEPHEN COLLINS as Decker Music by JERRY GOLDSMITH Screenplay by HAROLD LIVINGSTON Story by ALAN DEAN FOSTER Produced by GENE RODDENBERRY Directed by ROBERT WISE Read the Futura paperback. Original soundtrack album available on CBS Records and Tapes.

DOLBY STEREO

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Leeds United's Paul Hart is congratulated by Kevin Hird after scoring against Arsenal.

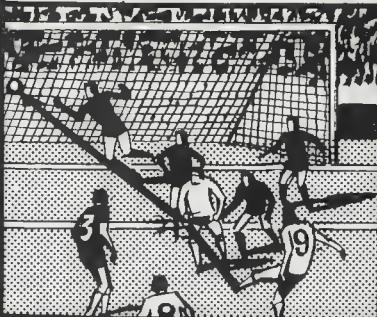


YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

A shot strikes an attacker's hand and is deflected past the 'keeper into the goal. Should you award: (a) a goal, (b) a goal-kick, or (c) a free-kick against the attacker?



2

Checking the markings on the field before the kick-off, you find that some of the distances are incorrect. Should you: (a) ignore the discrepancies or (b) have the distances remarked?



3

A player scores with two opponents between himself and the goal-line but the goalkeeper is not one of the opponents. Should you award: (a) a free-kick for offside or (b) a goal?



4

A substitute runs on to the pitch into his own team's penalty-area and punches the ball away. After cautioning him should you: (a) award a penalty, (b) drop the ball or (c) a corner-kick?

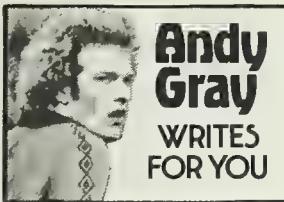


5

What is the distance from the goal-line to the penalty-area line: (a) 16 yards, (b) 17 yards or (c) 18 yards?

ANSWERS

1. A goal (a). 2. Have the distances remarked (b). It depends to me when I was refereeing a European Cup game in Cyprus between Monaco Nicolsia and Red Boys Dherdara. With my linesmen Gerald Morgan and Walter Williams we could see the two penalty spots were only ten yards from the goal-line. Through thought and interpretation we spoke to the groundsmen who then brought out some lime sand and remarked the penalty spots. 3. A goal (b). 4. Award a penalty (a). 5. 18 yards (c).



Andy Gray
WRITES FOR YOU

I'M sorry to disagree with John Bond, but I don't see myself being burnt out very soon, nor will I get tired of the way I play.

Mind you, I take it as a compliment and as I said a few weeks ago, I have modified my style this season. I don't think any of my injuries could have been avoided, though. Most of them have been sustained in training or falling awkwardly.

Maybe some of my tackles were a bit thoughtless, but experience has taught me not to be so reckless. My job isn't to win the ball; it is to stick it in the back of the net.

I wouldn't say I take THAT much of a battering, certainly no more than any other forward with a reputation for scoring goals.

Outside the penalty-area I don't get involved too much in the hustle and bustle of tackling, but near goal I do what my instinct tells me. A striker can never think about what he's going to do... he just does it. There is no time to think about what might happen.

Strangely, I've never been injured going for goal — touch wood.

I haven't missed a game for Wolves since my transfer, yet I struggled to put 15 games together for Villa over the past two seasons. Why? Well, the training at Molineux is different. It may have changed at Villa Park now, I don't know, but when I was there, the emphasis was invariably on agility and running, with the result that my knees took a right old pounding.

Things like hurdling aren't ideal if you have a dodgy knee.

I'm the sort of player who likes to be on the go all the time, but at Wolves John Barnwell has tried to cut down on my running with a lot of balls played to me. It worked well in the early games, although I've been disappointed more recently.

You won't see the best of Wolves until next season. We have a new strike force and we need time to get used to each other.

Still, I'm happy to be playing regularly and the only way I can prove John Bond wrong is by continuing to do so. I'm 24 now and I hope to have at least seven or eight more years at the highest level.

Mind you, I can remember when I played for Dundee United against Dundee once I thought my career was going to be cut short before it had even started.

We were 3-0 up, I think, and I'd

'ANOTHER



Wolves' £1½m striker won't go on taking this kind of battering



EIGHT YEARS AT THE TOP'

"Villa physio Peter Downs tends to my injured knee last season."



scored twice when the ball was played over from a corner and cleared. As we were running back, the Dundee player who was marking me kicked me as hard as he could — another $\frac{1}{4}$ " lower and he would have broken my shin bone.

To give you an idea of how nasty it was, there was a $\frac{1}{2}$ " indentation in my leg, such was the force of the kick. The United trainer had to make a small ball out of the cotton wool to place in the dent in my leg.

The referee wouldn't do anything as the incident was off the ball and he understandably saw nothing. I told him who had done it, but he could still take no action. Maybe he should have checked to see which Dundee player had $\frac{1}{2}$ " of skin on the toe of his boot!

I still have the scar from that kick. The player concerned isn't playing now, by the way; he's a manager.

The worst pain I've ever known didn't come from a kick. It was waking up after my first cartilage operation. I've had two such ops and when I was wheeled into the theatre I was sedated and very happy, even signing autographs for some nurses.

When I came to after the operation, though, it was agony. It felt like someone had driven a double-decker bus over my leg. I wouldn't wish that on anyone.

When I was at Villa I had a nasty experience. I was carried off against

Everton with ankle and knee injuries. My leg was put in plaster, while the ankle wound was stitched up.

The problem was that the bottom of the plaster was rubbing against the stitches. I stood it for a few days because I thought it was the ankle still being very sore. Then I couldn't put up with it any more. I had to send for the doctor and a shorter plaster was put on.

I can't say an opponent has ever deliberately set out to injure me — and only once have I ever hurt a player, and that was a complete accident.

The player was Laurie Sivell, the Ipswich Town goalkeeper during a game at Villa Park. It was a boring match and the score was 0-0 when Chris Nicholl shot from about 30 yards. Laurie could only parry his shot and the ball bobbed loose. I ran in and the ball was virtually on the end of my boot when Laurie dived head first and my follow-through caught him smack in the face.

I was almost physically sick. The Ipswich players had seen what happened and understood, although that was small consolation as Laurie lay there bleeding. He lost quite a few teeth, his nose was broken and he was cut badly, although he was a victim of his own bravery. There was no way I could have stopped myself as I was committed when he

dived.

For a while after the incident, I held back when goalkeepers came out in a similar way, although now it's not even at the back of my mind.

I love the physical side of the game, which is why I particularly look forward to playing against Dave Watson and Gordon McQueen, the two best centre-halves in the League. Neither give an inch and I like to pit my wits against them. I have to be at my very best to come out on top.

Alan Hansen and Phil Thompson are different type of stoppers, as the Liverpool pair are so skilful on the ground.

Another centre-half whom I rate highly is Coventry City's Jim Holton, who is playing the best soccer of his career. He used to be a bit of a hothead, but is more mature now and doesn't receive the credit he deserves.



"Jim Holton doesn't get the credit he deserves."

Coventry beat Wolves 3-0 at Molineux recently, a defeat that was doubly-disappointing as I was captain of Wolves.

This came about when Emlyn Hughes was injured a week or so before and couldn't make the game at Stoke. No one was more surprised than I when John Barnwell threw me the ball and said: "Lead the lads out, Andy."

I've never been captain before in my life and to be honest I was a bit embarrassed as I feel there are players better qualified than myself to be skipper.

Mr. Barnwell probably thought the way I'm always shouting and encouraging the others were good qualities. It's not a job I relish, however, even though I was pleased to be chosen.

Join me again in a fortnight,

LINE-UPS... RESULTS... SCORERS...

Monday, November 5

League Cup
(Fourth Round replay)

WEST HAM (1) 2 (Martin, Cross)
SUNDERLAND (1) 1 (Brown) 24,454
West Ham: Ferguson, Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Holland, Allen, Pike, Cross, Devonshire, Lansdowne.
Sunderland: Siddall, Whitworth, Bolton, Clarke, Elliott, Hindmarch, Arnott, Gilbert, Brown, Rowell, Dunn.

Third Division

SOUTHEND (3) 4 (Parker 2, Morris, Gray)
EXETER (0) 0 2,787
Southend: Keeley, Dudley, Moody, Hadley, Pountney, Stead, Otlakowski, Morris, Parker, Nelson, Gray.
Exeter: O'Keefe, Mitchell, Hatch, Hore, Giles, Forbes, Neville, Rogers (P), Bowker, Roberts (L), Pullar (Bell).

Tuesday, November 6

League Cup
(Fourth Round replay)

WOLVES (1) 1 (Carr)
O.P.R. (0) 0 26,014
Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry, Hibbitt (Brazier), Carr, Gray, Richards, Thomas.
O.P.R.: Woods, Shanks, Gillard, McCreery, Hazell, Wicks, Bowles (Burke), Roeder, Allen, Currie, Goddard.

Third Division

BARNESLEY (1) 2 (Lester, Glavin (pen))
BURY (1) 1 (Hilton) 11,691
Barnsley: Springett, Flavell, Collins, Glavin, Hunter, McCarthy, Banks, Clarke (Speedie), Riley, Lester, Pugh.
Bury: Forrest, Ritson, Halford, Waldron, Howard, Whitehead, Madden, Wilson, Johnson, Hilton, Mullen (Gregory).

GRIMSBY (2) 3 (Drinkell, Wigginton, Ford)
SHEFF. WED. (1) 1 (Mellor) 14,900
Grimbsy: Batch, Stone, Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Crombie, Brophy, Ford, Drinkell, Mitchell, Cumming.
Sheff. Wed.: Cox, Johnson, Grant, Smith, Pickering, Hornsby (Sterland), Mellor, Porterfield, Lowey, King, Curran.

HULL (0) 1 (Edwards)
ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Nix) 5,899
Hull: Blackburn, Nisbet, DeVries, Croft (Hawker), Dobson, Tait, Roberts, Moss, Edwards, Phillips, Farley.
Rotherham: Mountford, Tiler, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Finney, McEwan Gwyther, Fern, Nix.

MANSFIELD (0) 2 (Bird, Taylor)
CARLISLE (0) 1 (Ludlam) 3,000
Mansfield: Arnold, Dawkins, Wood, Hamilton, Bird, McClelland, Lathan, Taylor, Austin, Mann, Allen (Curtis).
Carlisle: Swinburne, Hoolickin, Winstanley, McDonald, Ludlam, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Bannon, Hamilton, Staniforth.

PLYMOUTH (1) 2 (Trusson, Sims)
SWINDON (0) 0 4,157
Plymouth: Crudgington, Hodges, McNeill, Randall, Foster, Phillipson-Masters, Trusson, Kemp, Sims, Bason, Johnson.
Swindon: Allan, Templeman, Lewis, McHale, Tucker, Stroud, Bates, Carter, Rowland, Mayes (Miller), Williams.



Wolves' League Cup hero Willie Carr.

SHEFF. UTD. (0) 0
BRENTFORD (0) 2 (Tibbott o.g., Smith) 14,808
Sheff. Utd.: Conroy, Moore, Tibbott, Kenworthy, McPhail, Jones, de Goey (Brown), Bourne, Butlin, Garner, Sabella.
Brentford: Bond, Shrub, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Fraser, Carlton, Alder, Smith, Holmes (L), Holmes (W), Phillips.

WIMBLEDON (2) 3 (Parsons 2, Leslie)
COLCHESTER (0) 3 (Wignall, Lee, Gough) 2,465
Wimbledon: Goddard, Eames, Jones, Galliers, Bowgett, Downes, Dziadulewicz, Parsons, Leslie, Cork, Lewington.
Colchester: Walker, Cook, Wright (Rowles), Leslie, Wignall, Dowman, Hodge, Gough, Foley, Lee, Packer.

Fourth Division

DARLINGTON (1) 3 (McLean (pen), Smith, Stalker)
SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 (Cammack) 1,306
Darlington: Owers, Nattress, Cochrane, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Charlton, Stalker, Taylor, Ellis.
Scunthorpe: Gordon, Davy, Peacock, Deere, Hall, Oates, O'Berg, Cammack, Green, Pilling, Keeley.

DONCASTER (1) 2 (Nimmo 2)
YORK (0) 0 6,6873
Doncaster: Peacock, Russell, Snodin, Lister, Lally, Dowd (Flanagan), Pugh, Nimmo, Warboys, Lewis, Bentley.
York: Brown, Kamara (Randall), Kay, Stronach, Clements, Faulkner, Ford, Lorimer, Eccles, McDonald, Wellings.

HARTEPOOL (1) 1 (Ayre)
STOCKPORT (0) 2 (Sword 2) 2,640
Hartlepool: Burleigh, Sweeney (Brookes), Norrington, Lawrence, Carr, Ayre, Linacre, Houchen, Newton, Harding, Loadwick.
Stockport: Lawson, Edwards, Rutter, Fogarty, Czuczman, Chapman, Lovell, Bradd, Henson, Park, Sword.

HUDDERSFIELD (3) 5 (Robins 2, Laverick, Cowling, Sutton)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 0 6,552
Huddersfield: Starling, Brown, Robinson, Stanton, Sutton, Topping, Laverick (Purdie), Hart, Fletcher, Robins, Cowling.

Northampton: Poole, Walker, Sandercock, Byatt, Walcock, Farrington, Saunders, Denyer, Sargent (Ward), Reilly, Farmer.

NEWPORT (2) 4 (Oakes, Aldridge, Tynan 2)
PORTSMOUTH (2) 3 (Garwood (pen), Hemmerman 2) 7,115

Newport: Plumley, Walden, Relish, Davies, Oakes (Bruton, D), Bailey, Vaughan, Lowndes, Tynan, Aldridge, Moore.

Portsmouth: Mellor, McLaughlin, Styles, Brisley, Aizelwood, Ellis, Garwood (Davey), Laidlaw, Hemmerman, Bryant, Rogers.

ROCHDALE (0) 0

WIGAN (1) 2 (Quinn, Houghton) 2,936
Rochdale: Watson, Cliff, Snookes, Weir (Hilditch), Waldron, Taylor, Esser, Wann, Hoy, Jones, Seal.

Wigan: Brown, Fretwell, Hinnigan, Gore, Methven, Davids, Corrigan, Wright, Houghton, Quinn, Urquhart.

WALSALL (0) 1 (Penn)

CREWE (0) 0 4,125
Walsall: Green, Macken, Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Waddington, Penn, Williams, McDonough (Rees), Buckley, Caswell.

Crewe: Felgate, Wilkinson, Bowers, Hunter, Scott, Prophett, McMahon, Guy, Chesters, Nelson, Coyne.

Anglo-Scottish Cup

(Semi-Final, first-leg)

BRISTOL CITY (1) 2 (Garland, Mabbutt)

MORTON (0) 2 (Ritchie, Russell) 4,000
Bristol City: Shaw, Sweeney, Gillies, Mabbutt, Kenyon, Hay, Fitzpatrick, Mann, Garland, Taiton, Pritchard.

Morton: Baines, Hayes, Miller, Anderson, McLaughlin, Orr, McNeill, Hutchison, Thompson, Russell, Ritchie.

Wednesday, November 7

European Cup

(Second Round, second-leg)

ARGES PITESTI (0) 1 (Barboescu)

NOTTM FOREST (2) 2 (Bowyer, Birches) 22,000
Arges: Christian, Barboescu, Toma, Ivan, Stundu, Cirstea, Chivescu, Lovanescu (Rala), Radu, Dobrin (Turcu), Nicoleta.

Nottingham Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray (Gunn), McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Hare (Mills), Bowyer, Birches Woodcock, Roberts.
(Nottingham Forest win 4-1 on agg)

DUNDALK (0) 0

CELTIC (0) 0 16,300
Dundalk: Blackmore, McConvile, Martin, Lawlor (McKenna), Keely, Dunning, Flanagan, Mick Lawlor (Daly), Devine, Muckian, Byrne, Dainty.

Celtic: Latchford, McGrain, Aitken, McAdam, McDonald, MacLeod, Provan, Conroy, Edvaldsson, Lennox, Burns (Davidson).
(Celtic win 3-2 on agg)

U.E.F.A. Cup

(Second Round, second-leg)

DIOSGYOR (2) 3 (Borostyan, Tatar 2 (1 pen))

DUNDEE (0) 1 (Kopel) 27,000
Diosgyor: Vereeb, Szanto, Salamon, Kutasi, Olah, Vaaradi (Teaduru B), Borostyan, Fuko, Szalai (Teaduru V), Tatar, Fekete.

Dundee Utd. McAlpine, Stark, Kopel, Philip, Hegarty, Narey, Kirkwood, Sturrock (Dodds), Pettigrew, Fleming, Payne (Holt).
(Diosgyor win 4-1 on agg)

IPSWICH (1) 1 (Beattie)

GRASSHOPPERS (0) 1 (Sulser) 19,574
Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Butcher, Thiessen, Osman, Beattie, Wark (Brazil), Muhrer, Mariner, Mills, Gates.

Grasshoppers: Berbig, In-Alnob, Heinz Herman, Natzger, Meyer, Herbert Herman (Traber), Pfisher, Wehril, Sulser, Ponte, Egli.
(Grasshoppers win on away goal rule)

LEEDS (0) 0

UNI. CRAIOVA (0) 2 (Cirtu, Belanu) 14,438
Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Stevenson, Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Gray, Parkinson (Harris), Hankin, Curtis, Graham.

Uni. Craiova: Boldici, Negru, Bumbescu, Ungureanu, Ticleanu (Donose), Stefanescu, Geoglu (Purima), Balaci, Camataru, Beldeanu, Cirtu.
(Uni. Craiova won 4-0 on aggregate)

League Cup

(Fourth Round replay)

NORWICH (2) 3 (Reeves 2, McGuire)

W.B.A. (0) 0 19,676
Norwich: Keelan, Ryan, Downs, McGuire, Brown, Powell, Goble, Reeves, Fashanu, Paddon, Peters.

W.B.A.: Godden, Trewick, Statham, Mills, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Owen Barnes, Brown (T).

Third Division

BLACKBURN (0) 2 (Crawford, Keeley)

CHESTER (0) 0 5,759

Blackburn: Arnold, Branagan, Morley, Kendall, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brosterston, Crawford, Craig, McKenzie, Metcalfe.

Chester: Millington, Raynor, Walker, Stortont, Cottam, Oakes, Sutcliffe (Jeffries), Jones, Rush, Philips, Henderson.

BLACKPOOL (2) 2 (Doyle, McEwan (pen))

CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 (Birch, Crawford) 3,484

Blackpool: Hesford, Malone (Jones), Paschley, Doyle, Ashurst, McEwan, Kerr, Kellow, Spence, Smith, Weston.

Cup-Winners' Cup

(Second Round, second-leg)

MAGDEBURG (0) 2 (Streich (pen), Stahmann)

ARSENAL (1) 2 (Price, Brady) 18,000
Magdeburg: Heynes, Raugust, Stahmann, Dobbelin, Decker, Mewes, Pommerenke (Sequin), Steinbach, Streich, Dobbell (Tyll).

Arsenal: Jennings, Devine, Nelson (Walford), Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Getting, Stapleton, Hollins (Price), Rix.
(Arsenal win 4-3 on agg)

RANGERS (1) 1 (Johnstone)

VALENCIA (2) 3 (Bonhof, Kempes 2) 36,000

Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Forsyth (A), Miller, Watson, MacDonald (A), McLean, Smith, Johnstone, Urquhart (Parlane), Cooper (MacKay).

Valencia: Manzanedo, Cervero, Botobut, Arias, Tendillo, Castellanos, Saura, Bonhof, Kempes, Subias, Pablo.
(Valencia win 4-2 on agg)



LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Chesterfield: Tingay, Tatt, O'Neil, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Salmon, Crawford.

OXFORD (0) 1 (Berry)

GILLINGHAM (1) 1 (Nicholl) 4,197
Oxford: Burton, Taylor, Fogg, Briggs, Scott, Jeffrey, Graydon, Duncan, Foley (McIntosh), Berry, Hodgson.

Gillingham: Hillyard, Sharpe, Barker, Bruce, Weatherton, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Westwood, Richardson.

READING (0) 2 (Heale, Bowman)

MILLWALL (0) 0 9,951
Reading: Death, Hetzke, White, Bowman, Shipperley, Morelino, Kearns, Kearney, Heale, Sanchez, Joslyn.

Millwall: Jackson, Donaldson, Coleman, Chatterton, Tagg, Blyth, Towner, Kinsella, Mitchell, Lyons, Mehmet.

Fourth Division

BRADFORD (1) 2 (Martinez, McNiven)

HALIFAX (0) 0 4,439
Bradford: C. Smith, Podd, Watson, Robertson, Baines, Wood, Bates, Dolan, Staniforth, McNiven, Martinez.

Halifax: Kilner, Dunleavy, Hutt, Evans, Harris, Hendrie (Burke), Smith, Kennedy, Mountford, Gedimentis, Stafford.

HEREFORD (1) 2 (Phillips, McGrellis)

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (MacDougall) 1,995

Hereford: Hughes, Price, Burrows, Marshall, Cornes, Birchenall, Hendry, White, McGrellis, Phillips, Hunt.

Bournemouth: Allen, Cunningham, Ferns, Townsend, Impey, Chambers (Brown), Holder, MacDougall, Butler, Borthwick, Miller.

TORQUAY (2) 2 (Murphy 2)

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0 3,121
Torquay: Turner, Pethard, Ritchie, Larmour, Bourne, Sermann, Davies, Lawrence, Cooper (Cox), Twitchin, Murphy.

Peterborough: Waugh, McVay, Phillips, Guy, Carmichael, Foster, Quow (Chard), Kellock, Cliss, Parkinson, Robson.

Postponed: Lincoln v Aldershot

Friday, November 9

Second Division

CHARLTON (1) 2 (Wilson, Gritt)

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Halom) 6,191
Charlton: Johns, Hazell, Campbell, Tydeman, Berry, Madden, Powell, Wilson, Robinson (Shaw), Walker, Gritt.

Oldham: McDonnell, Wood, Blair, Hilton (Gardner), Clements, Holt, Valentine, Keegan, Halom, Stainrod, Atkinson.

Third Division

SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Stead)

GRIMSBY (0) 0 4,119

Southend: Cowston, Dudley, Moody, Hadley, Pountney, Stead, Otuksowski, Morris, Parker, Nelson, Gray.

Grimsby: Batch, Stone, Moore (K), Waters, Wigington, Crombie, Broally, Ford, Drinkell, Mitchell, Cumming.

Fourth Division

DONCASTER (2) 2 (Pugh, Lewis)

PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Foster) 7,447

Doncaster: Peacock, Russell, Snodin, Lister, Lally, Dowd, Pugh, Nimmo, Warboys, Lewis, Bentley (Flanagan).

Peterborough: Waugh, McVay, Phillips, Guy, Carmichael, Foster, Chard (Robson), Kellock, Cliss, Parkinson, Gynn.

Postponed: Rochdale v Aldershot and Tranmere v Wigan.

Saturday, November 10

First Division

BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Clarke)

LIVERPOOL (1) 4 (Kennedy R., Dalglish 2, Johnson) 29,692

Brighton: Moseley, Gregory, Williams, Horton, Foster, Stevens, Ryan, Ward, Clarke, Sayer (Clark), O'Sullivan.

Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Johnson (Heighway), McDermott, Souness.

BRISTOL C. (0) 0

DERBY (2) 2 (Moreland, Duncan) 16,401

Bristol: Shaw, Sweeney, Kenyon, Mabbett, Hay (Meijer), Merrick, Fitzpatrick, Ritchie, Royle, Mann, Tainton.

Derby: McKellar, Langan, Buckley, Clark, McCaffery, Osgood, Emery, Powell, Duncan, Davies, Moreland.

COVENTRY (1) 3 (Ferguson 2, Wallace)

LEEDS (0) 0 19,402

Coventry: Sealey, Coop, McDonald, Gooding, Holton, Gillespie, Hutchison, Blair, Ferguson (Whitton), Wallace, Hunt.

Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Stevenson, Flynn (Entwistle), Hart, Madeley, Hird, Greenhoff, Hankin, Curtis, Gray.

C. PALACE (1) 1 (Swindlehurst)

ARSENAL (0) 0 42,887

C. Palace: Burridge, Hinshelwood, Sansom, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis, Walsh, Swindlehurst, Hilaire.

Arsenal: Jennings, Devine (Walford), Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Gatting, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

EVERTON (0) 0

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Johnston 2)

25,155

Everton: Wood, Gidman, Bailey, Wright, Higgins, Ross, Hartford (Lyons), Stanley, Latchford, Kidd, King.

Middlesbrough: Platt, Craggs, Peters, Johnston, Ashcroft, McAndrew, Bell, Natrass, Hodgson, Burns, Armstrong.

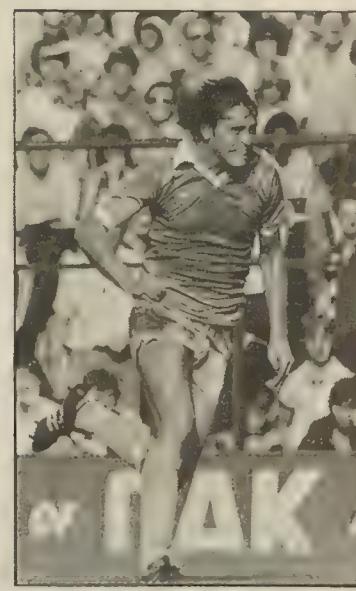
IPSWICH (0) 0

ASTON VILLA (0) 0

17,807

Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Butcher, Thijssen, Osman, Beattie, Wark, Muhran, Mariner, Mills, Turner.

Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Little, Geddis, Cowans, Shaw.



Mick Robinson of Manchester City.

MAN. CITY (0) 2 (Henry, Robinson)

MAN. UTD. (0) 0

50,067

Man. City: Corrigan, Ranson, Donachie, Bennett, Caton, Booth, Henry, Daley, Robinson, Power, Deyna.

Man. Utd.: Bailey, Nicholl, Houston, McIlroy, Moran, Buchan, Grimes, Wilkins, Coppell, Macari, Thomas.

SOUTHAMPTON (2) 4 (Watson, Channon, Boyer 2)

NOTTM. FOREST (0) 1 (Birtles) 22,072

Southampton: Wells, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Watson, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Channon, Baker, Hebbert.

Notm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns (Needham), Francis, Bowyer, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

STOKE (0) 0

WOLVES (1) 1 (Hibbitt)

26,061

Stoke: Jones, Evans, Scott, Johnson (Randall), Smith, Dodd, Heath, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Crooks, Richardson.

Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Clarke, Richards.

TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Yorath, Hoddle (pen.))

BOLTON (0) 0

33,155

Tottenham: Aleksic, Houghton, McAllister, Yorath, Smith, Perryman, Ardiles, Jones, Armstrong, Hoddle, Villa.

Bolton: McDonagh, Clements, Burke, Greaves, Jones, Walsh, Morgan, Whatmore, Gowling, McNab, Thompson.

W.B.A. (1) 2 (Wile, Robson)

NORWICH (1) 1 (Peters)

W.B.A.: Godden, Trewick, Pendrey, Mills, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Deehan, Owen, Barnes.

Norwich: Keelan, Bond, Downs, Ryan, Brown, Powell, McGuire, Reeves, Fashanu (Jones), Paddon, Peters.

Second Division

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Lynex)

CAMBRIDGE (0) 0

17,120

Birmingham: Wealands, Todd, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Towers, Ainscow (Lynex), Evans, Givens, Gemmill, Johnston.

Cambridge: Webster, Spriggs, Smith, Springer, Fallon, O'Neill, Biley, Christie, Reilly, Gibbins, Murray.

FULHAM (0) 1 (Davies)

WEST HAM (0) 2 (Stewart (pen.)

Cross) 16,476

Fulham: Digweed, Peters, Strong, Bullivant, Money, Gale, Marinello, Beck, Guthrie, Lock, Davies.

West Ham: Ferguson, Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Holland, Allen, Pike, Cross, Devonshire, Neighbour.

LEICESTER (0) 1 (Young)

BURNLEY (0) 1 (James)

17,191

Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Rose, May, O'Neill, Peake, Lineker, Kelly (Goodwin), Young, Smith, Henderson.

Burnley: Stevenson, Arins, Brennan, Overton (V), Dixon (Rodaway), Overton (R), Tate, Dobson, Fletcher, James, Young.

LUTON (1) 1 (Saxby)

Q.P.R. (0) 1 (Allen)

19,619

Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Donaghy, Greasham, Saxby, Price, Hill, West, Stein, Hatton, Moss.

Q.P.R.: Woods, Shanks, Gillard, McCreery, Hazell, Wicks, Bowles, Roeder, Allen, Currie (Burke), Goddard.

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BARRY Powell's £350,000 transfer to Derby County from Coventry City came as a complete shock to the 25-year-old Kenilworth born midfield player.

"At the time I wasn't playing too well," says Barry. "I went for a chat with team boss Gordon Milne just to get his views. He said that I was working hard enough at my game, but things were not really happening for me."

"He told me there and then that Newcastle were interested in me and that he'd been on the phone four times, but hadn't received a concrete offer."

"He asked me would I talk to Bill McGarry and I told him I would. I never heard anything for about a week, yet it was all in the papers that I was on my way to Newcastle."

"On the Friday night I received a phone call from Gordon Milne to say that Derby were also interested in me. I went for talks on the Saturday morning and that was it. It all happened so quickly."



COLIN ADDISON

POWELL POWER

Barry aims to show Derby fans that he's worth £350,000

"I was impressed with Colin Addison and that's the reason why I signed. He made such an impact that within ten minutes I was virtually a Rams player."

"I think Colin Addison has got big things lined up for Derby County. He knows what he wants out of the game and he knows what he wants for the club."

"The atmosphere within the Baseball Ground is tremendous, especially for a team that's so low down in the First Division."

"We're still playing good football. The only thing missing is goals. If we can continue to knock them in as we did against Nottingham Forest recently, Derby will soon bounce back. That 4-1 victory gave our confidence a great boost."

Barry, capped four times for the England Under-23 team, began his career at Wolves and after 58 appearances for them he signed for Coventry in September, 1975 at a cost of £75,000. "I've made around 220 League appearances so far," he says.

'Impressed'

"I've got mixed feelings about leaving Coventry. Gordon Milne and Ron Wylie did a lot for my game. I was impressed with them when I first went to Highfield Road and I still hold them in the highest esteem. I've a lot of friends in and around the Coventry area and it's a shame that I've got to uproot and move away."

"I think I've something to prove to the Derby supporters, having a £350,000 price tag around my neck. It's a lot of money and I think they're going to be looking for something. But since I've been here they've been very good and they really get behind the team."

"I don't think that I've anything to prove to myself. In my own mind I know I'm worth the fee. If you don't think that, then that's the time to start worrying about your game."

"Having been part of one England set up, I've got the taste for it. It's been a long time since I've been involved in an international squad and I'd like to get back in again."

"This is my third club and I think every move is one for the better, otherwise you wouldn't go. I'm hoping that I've moved from one First Division club to another. This is what Colin Addison assured me — that Derby County would be a First Division club at the end of the season."

"The aim for the club must be survival, and to finish in a mid-table position at the end of the campaign would suit us fine."

New Lives for Old Stars

TONY HATELEY



TONY Hateley made his name in soccer as a prolific goalscorer and one of the most travelled players since the War.

It was said of Tony that he could head a ball as hard as some strikers shoot.

Notts. County, Chelsea, Aston Villa and Liverpool were just a few of the clubs he represented in his time, and now Hateley has added another club to that list — Everton.

But Tony's connection with the famous Goodison club is on a strictly non-playing basis. He is the man in charge of Everton's highly successful lottery.

"When I finally retired I had thoughts of going into management," he said. "Most players have the same idea, but the right breaks never came for me, and it is all a bit of a rat race."

"I see all the Everton games, but it is such a full-time occupation that I hardly ever get the chance to see my son Mark at Coventry."

"He has earned a lot of rave reviews, but doesn't need to live up to comparisons with me. He is totally his own man, and if he gets his head down and works at Highfield Road, I am sure he can become a really top class striker."

Working for Everton, Hateley Snr. finds himself in the unusual position of attempting to overshadow the club where, by his own admission, he spent the most enjoyable year of his playing career — Liverpool.

"There is a very strong rivalry between the players, but off the field Everton and Liverpool get on very well. Nevertheless, we have to attempt to draw the attention from Anfield — it is all part of business."



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SOCCER is a make-or-break business. If managers fail to produce the goods there is always someone ready to bring down the axe. Players, too, face the chop when things aren't going too well.

This season reputations will be made in Scotland. Alas, they will also be lost.

Who, then, are the players in Scotland facing the crunch this season?

Hibs midifield player Ally MacLeod is one, a complete soccer enigma. No one argues about his precious ability, the rare talent that can light up a dull game.

A moment of MacLeod magic on a cold, wet afternoon warms the hearts of the Hibs fans. But MacLeod has never done this on a consistent basis, and it's about time he did!

He first made the senior breakthrough with St. Mirren. His outstanding ability overshadowed other players, including a young Gordon McQueen and Iain Munro, two of Jock Stein's current international mainstays.

Everyone raved about MacLeod. He was the one who got the headlines, but, after getting off to a head start, he has allowed other players in

from Saints to Hibs, but that didn't prevent me from being impressed by the managers.

"Mr. Turnbull would give a lot of thought before moving into the transfer market. Everything is looked into with care and detail."

Why, then, did Turnbull axe MacLeod after only one game of the new season?

MacLeod played in the 3-3 draw with St. Mirren in the Anglo-Scottish Cup at Love Street. There was talk of a disagreement about tactics after the game and MacLeod was dropped from the return at Easter Road a few days later. This time St. Mirren won 1-0.

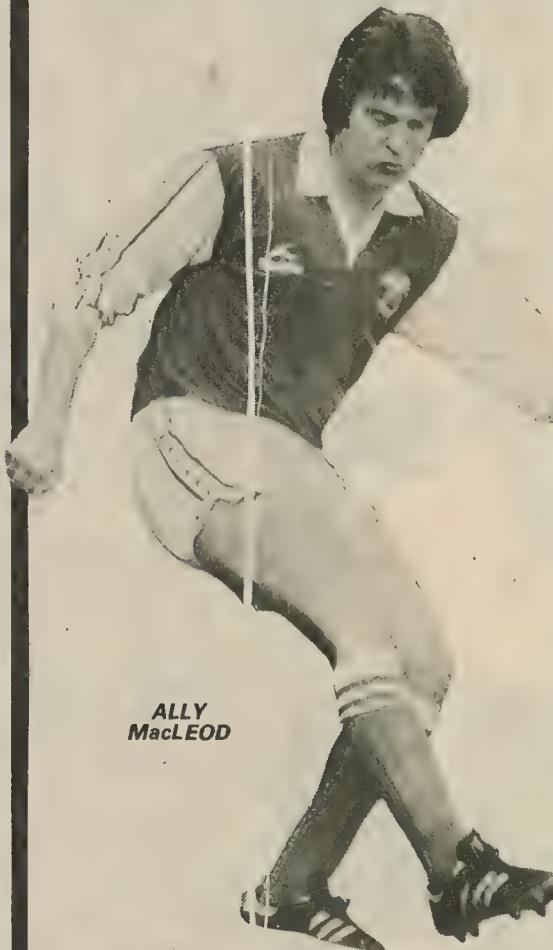
MacLeod was still left out in the cold when the League season started, but Turnbull reintroduced him after a handful of games. At one stage Ally, tipped to try his luck in England again while he was in the reserves, came in again to show his class, but, unfortunately, consistency still escapes this supremely-gifted player.

Hibs fans looked to MacLeod to produce his genius in last season's Scottish Cup Final saga against Rangers, but in the total of three games and two bouts of extra-time the player rarely glittered.

He had fine touches and, being fair, the elements in all three games were not designed for magical football, but, at the end of the day, MacLeod was a disappointment.

The Hibs fans felt let-down by the man upon whom so much depended. Now MacLeod cannot escape the crunch. He must prove the doubters wrong. He must get his game together and parade his skills on a more permanent platform.

MacLeod, himself, must realise that an individual piece of soccer splendour every third or fourth game is hardly going to keep the fans



delighted or do his reputation any good. The ball is firmly at your feet, Ally.

Celtic's Andy Lynch is an entirely different sort of player compared to MacLeod. He began his career as an outside-left with Hibs' rivals Hearts, but made his name as a left-back with Celtic.

He captained the club for a long period while Danny McGrain, his full-back partner, was sidelined through injury, but when the season kicked-off he found himself in the reserves.

"During my holiday I gave a lot of thought to our full-back position," admits Celtic manager Billy McNeill. "I knew Danny McGrain had done a good job for the Scotland team at left-back and I decided to give him a run there and bring in Alan Sneddon at right-back."

So far the move has had its moments of success. Highlighting that fact must be Celtic's first goal in the dramatic 2-2 draw with Rangers in the League at Ibrox this season.

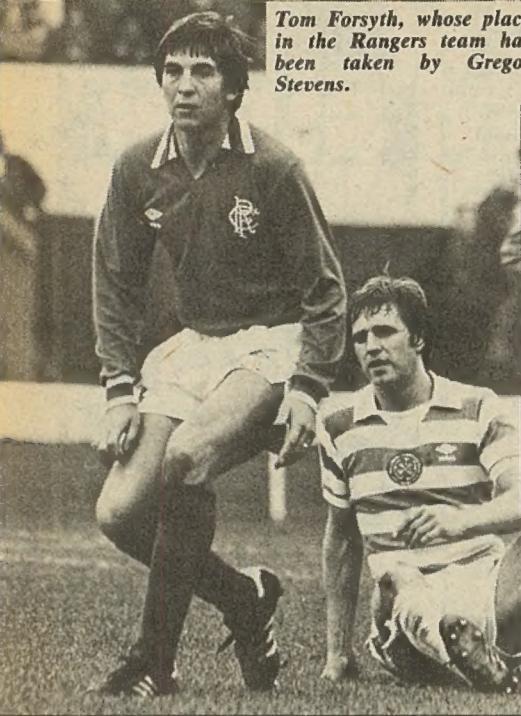
Attack

There were only six minutes remaining for play with Rangers winning 2-0 and Celtic launching into attack after attack. Bobby Lennox rolled a ball into the path of McGrain and he weighed up the position in the Rangers penalty-area before sending in a delightful cross and, to the astonishment of everyone, Sneddon came racing in like an express train to take off in a magnificent dive and head the ball past Peter McCloy.

Celtic eventually got a point when Tom McAdam blasted in the equaliser, but most of the talk after the game was about Celtic's courageous fight-back and Sneddon's marvelous goal.

Lynch has been playing well in the reserves, popping up with the occasional goal himself and that must be good news for manager McNeill. However, at this stage in his career,

Tom Forsyth, whose place in the Rangers team has been taken by Gregor Stevens.



It's also a make-or-break season for talented Bobby Houston, Kilmarnock's former Under-23 utility star.

In today's cash conscious soccer world, how many players will accept a drop in wages while exchanging clubs?

There can't be many, but Houston has that rare distinction after moving from Partick Thistle this season. He gives his reason logically and it defies argument.

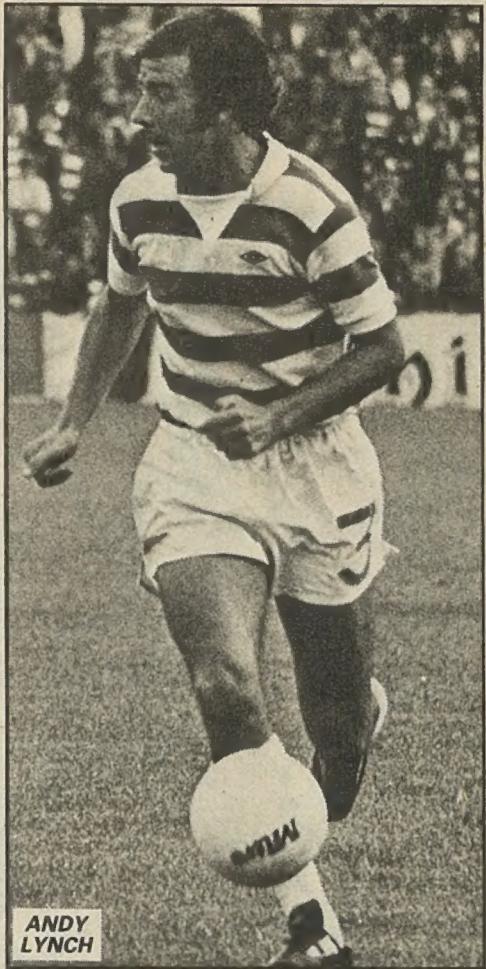
"Things just weren't working out with Thistle although I enjoyed my stint there. I was a bit unsettled and I kept hearing about such and such a club preparing to bid for me."

"There was even speculation about Jock Stein trying to buy me while he was at Leeds United for his short spell. I was told he bid £70,000 for me and that seemed a fair enough offer."

"However, nothing materialised and I've got to admit I felt a bit disappointed. A move to England would have been a real challenge, just the test I was looking for. But, alas, it wasn't to be."

"I was in and out of the Thistle first team like a yo-yo. Sometimes I wouldn't know I was playing until hours before the kick-off."

"I'm not having a go at anyone, but obviously it is hardly the ideal preparation for a player."



ANDY LYNCH

CRUNCH!

IT'S MAKE-OR-BREAK SEASON FOR SOME SCOTTISH STARS

reserve team football won't do much good for the ambitious Lynch, who, of course, scored Celtic's winning goal against Rangers in the Scottish Cup Final three years ago with a well-struck penalty-kick.

Andy Lynch has a lot to do to win back his first team place. He will not duck that challenge, that's for sure.

Across Glasgow at Ibrox, Tom Forsyth hasn't had to look far for his problems. The Scottish international missed the end of last season and the start of the current term through injury and his hard-tackling, 100 per cent endeavour and will-to-win left manager John Greig with a problem.

He knows the value of Forsyth to Rangers, but sentiment is rarely allowed to creep into football and Greig bought Gregor Stevens from Leicester City. Stevens is ready-made to step into Forsyth's central defensive position.

Greig, though, is swift to point out: "Stevens is a versatile player, remember. He can play in midfield, too. There's nothing to say I cannot play Tom Forsyth and Gregor Stevens in the same team."

That would be a fearsome sight for any rival team for neither Forsyth nor Stevens are famous for pulling out of tackles when 50-50 balls are presented!

But Forsyth, at 30, must realise that this season is a bit of a tester. The Iron Man, nicknamed 'Jaws', has never let Scotland down during his international forays and obviously he wants to get back into that particular scheme of things.

But Forsyth will first have to beat the injury jinx that has apparently settled on him and become a permanent fixture in the Rangers first team. With so many good players at Ibrox at the moment that in itself will be a difficult task.

However, Forsyth is a determined character. His never-say-die spirit will certainly not desert him when he needs it most.



The time was certainly ripe for me to pack my bags and move on."

Kilmarnock were the club who came in for Houston. Rugby Park boss Davie Sneddon offered Ian Jardine in a straight swap deal and Thistle accepted.

"Funnily enough," admits Houston, "I kicked off this season hoping Kilmarnock would be relegated! Don't get me wrong, though, I've nothing against the club. I wouldn't have joined them if I had, would I?"

"No, it was just that I thought Thistle might struggle a bit and I was hoping that other clubs would be relegated and not us. Naturally, I have since changed my mind."

"I'm almost 28, so I should be at my peak."

he says. "I just want to do well for Kilmarnock and prove that they got a good deal when they signed me."

Meanwhile, at Pittodrie, Aberdeen's goal machine, Joe Harper, has got nothing to prove to anyone. He has rattled in goals galore, cost around £450,000 in total transfer fees, played for his country at the highest level, been involved in World Cups and topped the Premier Division's scorers' chart last season. Not bad going, at all.

Contentment

You might think, then, that Joe Harper is resting in contentment. You would be absolutely wrong!

Harper missed the start of the season, but he has come roaring back, unsettling defences and pinching a goal or two. This is his testimonial year and Harper wants to make it an unforgettable one.

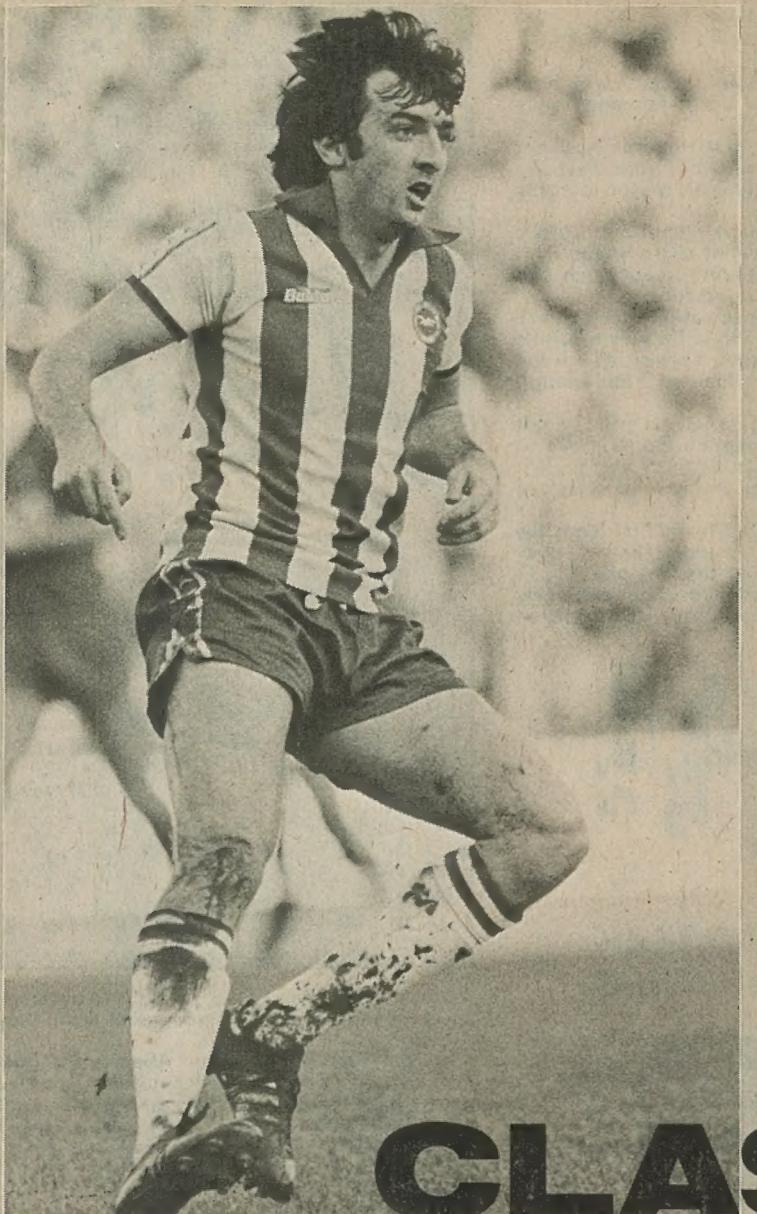
He is in no mood to give up his top marksman's award and he fully intends to be at the top of the pile at the end of the season. It won't be easy to shoot him down.

There are some question marks hovering over his career, though. Looking to the future, Aberdeen fans are wondering who can take over from him as their regular scorer. Stevie Archibald is a possibility, of course, but Harper doesn't feel quite like bowing out of top class football just yet!

He knows the only way he can silence the critics is to score a pyramid of goals. He has already proved this season that he hasn't lost that invaluable knack of always being in the right place at the right time.

Those, then, are just some of the players caught in the vicious whirlpool of today's soccer. They have shown their undoubted qualities in the past and they are being asked to parade them again.

Ally MacLeod, Andy Lynch, Tom Forsyth, Bobby Houston and Joe Harper... we wish you luck!



THE reputation Ray Clarke earned himself for scoring goals, first with Mansfield and then in Europe, made him an obvious target for Alan Mullery in his fight to prevent Brighton from dropping into the Second Division.

By a strange quirk of fate Clarke, who joined The Seagulls for £200,000 from Bruges, made his First Division debut against Arsenal at Highbury. He had supported The Gunners as a youngster, and played there on many occasions as a schoolboy.

Clarke's previous association with Mullery — they had been at Tottenham together as players — also helped him in rejoining his former illustrious colleague.

He does not hide the fact that his eyes have always been on First Division football, even in his Third Division days with Swindon and Mansfield.

"That's why I left Mansfield, because I thought if I couldn't make it after scoring the goals I scored for them I never would, which is why I gave myself this amount of time in Europe," he said.

"I had three and a half good years over there, particularly at Ajax, but it was the urge to achieve my ambition as well as to get my two kids educated that made me

CLASSY CLARKE

Ray hopes his European experience can boost Brighton

return to England.

"I'm delighted to have joined Brighton," Clarke went on, "as I've always been an admirer of Alan Mullery. He certainly had the right attitude as a player and now seems to have the same attitude as a manager."

Clarke admits that it has taken far less time than the four months he needed to settle in Europe to reacclimatise himself to English football.

"Sparta signed me for £80,000 from Mansfield which meant going from our Third Division to the Dutch First. I wasn't helped by the fans who seemed to expect miracles from me straight away after they'd had a lean time the previous season.

"It's a very different type of game over there in that they tend to play a waiting game, whereas

we are more direct."

Even after a relatively short period of time with Brighton, Clarke is convinced they have the ability to preserve their First Division status.

"From what I've seen and heard everyone accepts the fact we've got where we have very quickly. Nobody's expecting great things this season and just about everyone connected with the club would gladly settle for a mid-table place this season so that they can start building for the future.

"Although we shook a few people by beating the European Cup Champions Nottingham Forest recently, to inflict their first League defeat in 52 games.

"Because Brighton have money, are prepared to spend, and fight for each other, shows that their approach is right which is why I'm sure that we'll manage to steer clear of the bottom three," Clarke commented.

He feels that one reason for so much early pessimism regarding his new club's chances of survival in the top flight is the reputation which some of their opponents have.

"We've got to take every game as it comes and, as we proved at Forest, not be worried by names. A couple of good results like that will give the players the confidence they need which will, in turn, help them try things. The trouble about being near the bottom is that everyone's afraid of losing.

"It's ridiculous to start writing us off yet," Clarke emphasised, "in my second year at Mansfield we were bottom of the Third Division with only 16 points from 26 games before going on to win 15 of our last 20 games, drawing five and finishing sixth."

Clarke's goalscoring ability had

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TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

1. Bob Stokoe was recently appointed manager of which Fourth Division club?

2. Tottenham goalkeeper Mark Kendall (right) signed for Chelsea, Chesterfield or Chester on a month's loan?

3. Lincoln City paid a record £36,000 for striker Derek Bell. From which Third Division club was he signed?

4. Former Nottingham Forest, Manchester United and England winger, Ian Storey-Moore is player-manager of Southern League Bedford, Burton Albion or Bognor Regis?

5. Alan Mayes has been scoring regularly for which Third Division club this season?

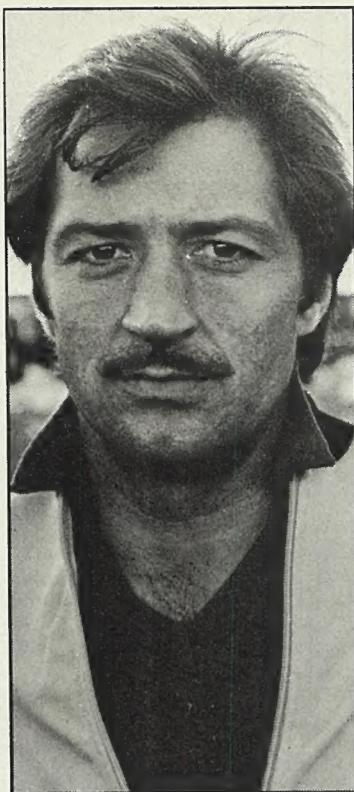
6. Nottingham Forest suffered their first League defeat at home in 50, 51 or 52 games by Brighton 1-0?

7. Paul Mariner's winning goal for Ipswich Town against Derby County at the Baseball Ground on Saturday, November 17th, was the 100th, 150th or 200th of his career?

8. On the same day, Tottenham lost 2-1 at Liverpool. Is it 65, 66 or 67 years since Spurs last won at Anfield?



9. Frank Worthington (below) was transferred from Bolton Wanderers to which Second Division club recently?



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

England, Scotland, Wales Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland were involved in European Championship games recently. See if you can answer the following questions about the ties.

11. Which Welsh defender was sent-off during their 1-0 defeat by Turkey?

12. Scotland were beaten 1-0, 2-0 or 3-0 in Belgium?

13. Why was England's game against Bulgaria postponed on the Wednesday?

14. The game was eventually played 24 hours later. England won 2-0 ... who scored their goals?

15. Apart from being the winning goal, what was so historic about Gerry Armstrong's effort for Northern Ireland against the Republic?

ANSWERS:

1. Rockdale, 2. Chesterfield, 3. Barnsley, 4. Burton, 5. Swindon Town, 6. 51, 7. 150th, 8. 67, 9. Warrington v. Rangers, 10. Bolton, 11. Birmingham City, 12. 2-0, 13. Feyenoord, 14. Dave Watson and Gerry Hoddele, 15. It was the first ever goal between the two countries.

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Manchester City's Michael Robinson is usually to be found carving up defences, but here, watched by his parents, he settles for a Sunday roast!

MICHAEL ROBINSON

MAN. CITY

FULL NAME: Michael John Robinson

BIRTHPLACE: Leicester

BIRTHDATE: 12th July, 1958

HEIGHT: 6ft

WEIGHT: 13st

PREVIOUS CLUB: Preston North End

MARRIED: No

CAR: VW Passat

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Kevin Keegan

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Buccaneer FC, a team I manage

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: My weight

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Preston 2, Sheffield United 2. I scored two goals in the game

BIGGEST THRILL: Signing for Manchester City

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing at anything

BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Holland

FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Winning, scoring goals and sleeping

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Bad food, ignorant people

FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Hazell, Coronation Street and all sports programmes

FAVOURITE SINGERS: Genesis and Earth Wind and Fire

FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Donald Sutherland and Susan George

BEST FRIEND: I like to think I have many

BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON CAREER: Alan Kelly, Preston's assistant-manager, and my parents

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Bad referees and losing

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None

PERSONAL AMBITION: To stay happy

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To play for England

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Very bored

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? England manager Ron Greenwood on international business

